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May 1927

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I R E L A N D:
WITH
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
PRESENT STATE OF THAT KINGDOM:
MADE IN
THE YEARS 1776, 1777, AND 1778.
AND
BROUGHT DOWN TO THE END OF 1779.

BY ARTHUR YOUNG, ESQ. F. R. S.
Honorary Member of the Societies of DUBLIN, YORK, and MANCHESTER; the Oeconomical Society at BERNE; the Palatine Academy of Agriculture at MANHEIM, and the Physical Society at ZURICH.

VOL. I.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED BY [illegible]
FOR MESSRS. WHITESTONE, SLEATER, SHEPPARD,
[illegible]
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VOL. II.

DUBLIN:

PRINTED BY JAMES WILLIAMS,
FOR MESSRS. WHITESTONE, SLEATER, SHEPPARD,
WILLIAMS, BURNET, WILSON, JENKIN,
WOGAN, VALLANCE, WHITE, BEATTY,
BYRN, AND BURTON.

M,DCC,LXXX.

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TOUR, &c.

SEPTEMBER the 8th, left Drummoland, Sir Lucius rode with me through Clonmelly, to the hill above Bunratty Caſtle, for a view of the Shannon. Clonmelly is a diviſion of Drumline pariſh, 900 acres of Corkaſs land in one lot, which is cheap, at 30s. an acre. I went into ſome of the paſtures, which were ſtocked with very fine bullocks, at the rate of one to every acre. In this neighbourhood, Mr. Hickman has a cloſe of 20 acres, which, when in his own hands, fattened him 2 cows per acre, and in winter fed him 100 wethers, to the improvement of 6s. each. The profit by the cows was 4l. and by the ſheep 1l 10s. per acre: in all 5l. 5s. I had this fact from his own mouth. The richneſs of theſe corcaſſes, which are flat lands on the river ſide, that have been gained at different times from the ſalt water, is very great. When in tillage, they ſometimes yield extraordinary crops; 50 ſtat barrels an acre of bere have been known, ſixteen of barley, and from 20 to 24 of oats are

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common crops. From Clonmelly Hill, the proſpect is very noble. There is a view of the Shannon from Limerick to Foynes Iſland, which is 30 miles, with all its bays, bends, iſlands, and fertile ſhores. It is from one to three miles broad, a moſt noble river, deſerving regal navies for its ornament, or what are better, fleets of merchantmen, the chearful ſigns of far extended commerce, inſtead of a few miſerable fiſhing-boats, the only canvaſs that ſwelled upon the ſcene: but the want of commerce in her ports is the misfortune, not the fault of Ireland. Thanks for the deficiency to that illiberal ſpirit of trading jealouſy, which has at times actuated and diſgraced ſo many nations. The proſpect has a noble outline in the bold mountains of Tipperary, Cork, Limerick, and Kerry. The whole view magnificent.

At the foot of this hill is the caſtle of Bunratty, a very large edifice, the ſeat of the O'Brien's, princes of Thomond; it ſtands on the bank of a river, which falls into the Shannon near it. About this caſtle, and that of Roſmanagher, the land is the beſt in the county of Clare; it is worth 1l. 13s. an acre, and fats a bullock per acre in ſummer, beſides winter feed.

To Limerick, through a chearful country, on the banks of the river, in a vale ſurrounded by diſtant mountains. That city is very finely ſituated, partly on an iſland formed by the Shannon. The new part, called Newtown

Pery, from Mr. Pery, the ſpeaker, who owns a conſiderable part of the city, and repreſents it in parliament, is well built. The houſes are new ones, of brick, large and in right lines. There is a communication with the reſt of the town by a handſome bridge of three large arches, erected at Mr. Pery's expenſe. Here are docks, quays, and a cuſtom-houſe, which is a good building, faces the river, and on the oppoſite banks is a large quadrangular one, the houſe of induſtry. This part of Limerick is very chearful and agreeable, and carries all the marks of a flouriſhing place.

The exports of this port are beef, pork, butter, hides, and rape-ſeed. The imports are rum, ſugar, timber, tobacco, wines, coals, bark, ſalt, &c. The cuſtoms and exciſe, about 16 years ago, amounted to 16,000l. at preſent 32,000l. and rather more four or five years ago.

Whole revenue	1751	£.16,000
	1775	51,000

Revenue of the port of Limerick, year ending

March 25	1759	£.20,494
	1760	29,197
	1761	20,727
	1762	20,650
	1763	20,525
	1764	32,635
	1765	31,099

Com. Jour. vol. 14. *p.* 71.

Account of duties paid on goods imported and exported in Limerick.

Years.	Imports.			Exports.		
1764	£.19,869	15	9	£.2195	6	7
1765	21,332	4	8	1964	5	2
1766	16,729	8	2	1815	11	8
1767	16,316	10	0	2365	4	4
1768	16,571	12	8	2229	17	2
1769	20,237	12	7	1855	0	8
1770	22,138	0	4	1941	3	8
1771	20,213	12	6	2455	2	2
1772	22,003	2	0	3046	11	10
1773	20,606	15	7	2282	1	7
1774	17,317	0	9	2150	13	9
1775	16,979	10	6	2647	5	9

Salted, laſt year, 43,700 pigs; average 1½ lb. Horned cattle (of which many were cows) 12,200. The number of bullocks killed here in a year amounts to 13,000; increaſed pretty conſiderably in twenty years. They have been ſalting pigs all ſummer. Pork now 29s. 3d. per cwt. was only 12s. ſeven years ago. The value of bullocks hides are on an average 35s. Cows 24s. per cwt. Butter exported in caſks, from two to three cwt. each, now 44s. a cwt. 6 years ago only 25s. The ſhipping belonging to the town, 1 of 120 tons.

1	150
3	150 to 250
1	140
1	96
1	50

but not increaſed. A good deal of rape ſeed ſhipped off for Holland, and one hundred tons of rape cakes to Wells and Lynn in Norfolk, at 40s. a ton. Till this laſt year at 25s. a ton. Many thouſand loads of dung thrown into the Shannon, both in the town and many places along the river. Within five or ſix years they have taken ſome away, but not much. Town parks let at 4l. 4s. to 5l. for ten miles every way the rent is 25s. to 30s. Much flour goes to Dublin from this county and Tipperary on the land-carriage bounty. There is a great increaſe of tillage: thrice the corn grown that there was formerly: There has been much paſturage broken up on this account; ſome bullock land, and ſome ſheep land. Great quantities of butter made within a few miles of Limerick. Scarce any ſpinning here, or in the neighbourhood, either of wool or flax. The poor live upon potatoes and milk, generally ſpeaking, with ſome oatmeal. They do not all keep cows; thoſe who do not, buy, and pay 1d. for three quarts of ſkim milk. The rent of their cabbins and one-fourth of an acre 15s. to 20s. build them themſelves. They are in a better ſituation in moſt reſpects than twenty years ago. Pigs are much increaſed, chiefly or entirely bred by the cottars, and the high price has been of prodigious conſequence to them. They are much better clad than they were. Date their increaſe of this from the open cattle trade to England. Population has much increaſed within twenty years, and the city alſo, but was more populous ſix years ago than at preſent. Emigrations were known from hence; two ſhips went commonly till the war. Between 1740 and 1750, there were only four carriages in and about Limerick, the Biſhop's, the Dean's, and one other Clergyman's, and one neighbouring Gentleman's. Four years ago there were above ſeventy coaches and poſt-chaiſes in Limerick, and one mile round it. In Limerick diſtrict, now 183 four wheeled carriages; 115 two wheeled ditto.

Price of Proviſions.

Wheat, 1s. 1d. a ſtone.
Barley and oats, 5d¾, to 6d.
Scotch coals, 18s. Whitehaven, 20s.
A boat load of turf, 20 tons, 45s.
Salmon, three halfpence
Trout, 2d. very fine, per lb.
Eels, 2d. a pound
Rabbits, 8d. a pound
Teal, 10d. a couple.
Wild ducks, 20d. to 2s. a couple
Plover, 6d. a couple.
Widgeon, 10d. ditto.
Hares, 1s. each, commonly ſold all the year round
Woodcocks, 20d. to 2s. 2d. a brace
Oyſters, 4d. to 1s. a 100
Lobſters, 1s. to 1s. 6d. if good.

Land ſells at twenty years purchaſe. Rents were at the higheſt in 1765, fell ſince, but in four years have fallen 8s. to 10s. an acre about Limerick. They are at a ſtand at preſent, owing to the high price of proviſions from paſture. The number of people in Limerick, are computed at 32,000, it is exceeding populous for the ſize; the chief ſtreet quite crowded; many ſedan chairs in town, and ſome hackney-chaiſes. Aſſemblies the year round, in a new aſſembly-houſe, built for the purpoſe; and plays and concerts common.

Upon the whole, Limerick muſt be a very gay place, but when the uſual number of troops are in town, much more ſo. To ſhew the general expenſes of living, I was told of a perſon's keeping a carriage, four horſes, three men, three maids, a good table, a wife, three children, and a nurſe, and all for 500 l. a year.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
A footman, — —	4	4	0	to	6	6	0
A profeſſed woman cook —					6	6	0
A houſe-maid —— ——					3	0	0
A kitchen maid — —					2	0	0
A butler — —	10	0	0	to	12	0	0

A barrel of beef or pork, 200 lb. weight. Veſſels of 400 tons can come up with ſpring tides, which riſe 14 feet.

September 9th, to Caſtle Oliver; various country, not ſo rich to appearance as the corcaſſes, being fed bare: much hilly ſheep-walk, and for a conſiderable way, a full third of it potatoes and corn: no ſign of depopulation. Juſt before I got to the hills, a field of ragwort *(ſeneſio jacobœa)* buried the cows. The firſt view of Caſtle Oliver intereſting. After riſing a mountain ſo high that no one could think of any houſe, you come in view of a vale, quite filled with fine woods, fields margined with trees, and hedge plantations climb-ing up the mountains. Having engaged myſelf to Mr. Oliver, to return from Killarney by his houſe, as he was confined to Limerick by the aſſizes, I ſhall omit ſaying any thing of it at preſent.

September 10th, reached Annſgrove, the ſeat of Richard Aldworth, Eſq; to whom I am obliged for the following particulars. Farms about Annſgrove, in the pariſh of Caſtle Town Roche, riſe from 50 acres to 200, a few ſmaller. It abounds exceedingly with land jobbers, who have hired large tracts, and re-let them to tenants, and thoſe to under ones, but gentlemen are getting out of this ſyſtem now. No graziers here; the rents are made by tillage and ſheep, and a few dairies; the ſoil is all lime-ſtone, much fine hazel loam, from 4 to 18 inches deep. A hill runs through this country, which is wet woodcock clay. It lets in general from 7s. to 22s. plantation acre, average 15s. The barony of Orrery in this county (Cork) is as rich as Limerick; lets from 25s. to 35s. an acre. The next in Fermoy 13s. Duhallow has much mountains and unimproved; vaſt tracts of it heath, but rears at preſent great numbers of young cattle, and many dairies, average rent 7s. Condons and Clangibon 15s. Imokilly, a very fine corn country. Barrymore, rough, 7s. Barrets mountains, with bog, 4s. Muſherry, rough and uncultivated, 4s. Kinalea yields more corn than any of them; lets at 14s. the Engliſh acre. The baronies of Kerrycurihy and Courcy's upon the coaſt are all high let, from ſituation, 10s the Engliſh acre. In Carbery, there are great quantities of wild country, and much uncultivated; proviſions are extravagantly cheap, from want of communications. The whole county, upon an average, 7s. The courſe of crops about Annſgrove;

1. Potatoes, 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats, 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Leave it for three years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats, 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Leave it for three or four years.

Flax ſown in patches upon lay, and ſometimes after potatoes. Potatoes they plant in a moſt ſlovenly manner, leaving the ſmall ones in the ground of the firſt crop, in order to be ſeed for the ſecond, by which means they are not ſliced: ſometimes a ſharp froſt catches them, and deſtroys all theſe roots. They plant many on graſs without dung, on the rich land, and pay 25s. to 50s. an acre for liberty to do it. Of wheat they ſow 20 ſtone per acre, and get on an average 7 barrels. They ſeldom ſow it till February; they think the firſt dark nights in that month the beſt ſeed time in the year. But it is in fact owing to their taking their potatoes up ſo late, which they do not begin till near Chriſtmas. Some, however, are earlier, and get their wheat in in November and December. They ſow, of oats, a kilderkin, or 4 buſhels of 32 gallons. Neither peaſe, beans, nor rape in the country, but turnips and clover are creeping in among gentlemen.

men. Flax is ſown by every body for their own uſe, which they ſpin, and get woven into linen for themſelves, and what they have to ſpare, ſell in yarn. There are very few of theſe weavers.

Lime is the great manure; they lay 100 common barrels to the acre, laſts ſeven or eight good crops, and leaves the ground the better for it; but their principle is to exhauſt as faſt as poſſible in conſequence of liming. It coſts them 8d. a barrel roach. Burn with culm from the coal pits in the barony of Duhallow. This coal is only uſed for drying malt, ſmiths forges, &c. but not for common fuel. They have alſo a very rich manure, which is rotten lime-ſtone, as they call it. It is a rock, and riſes very hard, like a lime-ſtone quarry, but when expoſed to the air, falls into ſand; it has a ſtrong fermentation with acids, and gives great crops: they do not, however, carry it above a mile and half. Paring and burning they are very fond of for potatoes, and ſometimes for bere, but the landlords prevent the practice. They get very great crops by it, and do it to chuſe on waſte lands; pare with an inſtrument they call a *graffane*, and the huſbandry they call graffaning and burning. It is a very ſtrong hoe with which they cut up the turf, rolling it up with their foot as they do it, and leaving it to dry in order to burn. They do it in March or April for their potatoe planting; and though it makes them very late, yet the crops never fail. Soot is thrown away, and in general malt duſt, as they do not ſcreen their malt. The fences of common farmers are making banks, and ſowing furze ſeed. Graſs lands are applied to feeding ſheep and cows. Their ſheep ſyſtem is that of breeding. They keep their lambs till they are two year old wethers, and then ſell them to thoſe who fatten near the coaſt. Theſe they ſell at 11s. to 18s. each; and they cull ſome ewes every year, which the butchers buy at 14s. or 15s. They ſheer generally on an average 4lb. wool, which ſells 13s. to 19s. 6d a ſtone, at which amazing price ſome was ſold this year. The cottars have all ſheep, which they milk for their families. The poor people reckon their cattle by *collops*, that is proportions. The heavieſt collop is ſix ſheep, the next is a horſe, the next two heifers, and laſtly the cow. Flocks riſe to 500 ſheep; no folding. Dairies are conſiderable. They riſe from 20 to 50 cows, are employed in making butter only; in ſome parts of the county they make very good cheeſe. An acre and a quarter maintains a cow in ſummer and winter graſs and hay. The farmer generally lets them out to dairymen, at 2l. a cow, and a guinea for horn money; the 40s. is for the butter, and the guinea for the other produce, ſour milk, pigs, and calf. But ſometimes the rent is in butter a hundred weight per cow delivered in Cork, and the guinea is in caſh. The produce is not much more than this cwt. of butter; for the dairyman's profit lies principally in having the graſs of a cow, an acre of ground, and a cabbin and garden, and they are generally very poor. They rear many pigs on account of the dairies, about a pig to every cow, and a calf to every two cows, which they feed on ſour milk, giving them no new milk. They are attentive to have their cows calve in May. The tillage of the farmers is all done by horſes; that of the gentlemen by oxen. Four horſes and three men to every plough, one to drive, one to hold, and another with a pole, bearing on the beam to keep it in the ground; but they do an acre a day, by means of leaving a great ſpace untouched in the middle of each land, where they begin by lapping the ſods to meet. To 100 acres of tillage they keep about ſix horſes; they make up their teams, borrowing of one another. The chaff is thrown away as every where elſe. Hire of a car and horſe, and driver, 1s. 6d. a day. Price of carriage a ½d. per cwt. a mile. In hiring farms, they will manage to take 100 acres without 100 pence. They will do it without teams or cattle, or any thing; by re-letting the land for potatoes, graſs for cows, &c. and if a fellow gets 5l. by a 100 acres, he is very well ſatisfied. Land ſells at 20 years purchaſe. Rents, at preſent, at a ſtand; rather upon the riſe, owing to the price of butter; they fell 3s. 6d. in the pound in 1772 and 3. Tythes are compounded. Wheat pays 8s. the Engliſh acre: ſome 6s. Barley and Bere 6s. Potatoes 6s. Mowing ground 2s. Sheep 3d. Lambs 2d. Cows 2d. Leaſes are generally 31 years, or three lives, or for ever.

The poor people in general occupy from 10 to 15 acres; but the moſt common way is hiring in partnerſhip in rundale; and they have changedale alſo. Moſt of them have only a cabbin and a cabbage garden, and the ſize is uſually enough for 100 plants; and their rent for it 20s: in this caſe they pay their neighbour for the graſs of their cow; but I was ſorry to find that ſome of them have no cows. They live the year through upon potatoes, and for half the year have nothing but water with them. They have all a pig, and ſome of them ſeveral, but kill one for themſelves at Chriſtmas. Their circumſtances are very generally better than twenty years ago, eſpecially in cloathing, but in food no great difference. Spinning is the general buſineſs of the women: they ſpin infinitely more wool than flax. All the poor keep a collop of ſheep; as ſoon as the lamb is fit to kill, they ſell it, except enough to keep up the ſtock, in order to have the milk. In the little towns of Donneraile, Mitchelſtown, Mallow, Kilworth, Kanturk, and Newmarket, are clothiers, who buy up the wool, employ combers in their houſes, who make conſiderable wages, and when combed, they have a day fixed for the poor to come and take it, in order to ſpin it into worſted, and pay them by the ball, by which they earn one penny three farthings to two-pence a day. The clothier exports this worſted from Cork to Briſtol and Norwich. Of late they have worked a good deal of it into ſerges, which are ſent to Dublin by land-carriage, and from thence to the North, from whence it is ſmuggled into England by way of Scotland. The poor people's wool is worked into frizes for the uſe of the men. The weavers who work theſe frizes and ſerges live about the country in the cabbins. Immenſe quantities of raw wool are ſent to Cork from all parts; 500 cars have been ſeen in a line; and it is ſuppoſed to be ſent in large quantities to France. No emigrations. All the poor people are Roman Catholics, and among them are the deſcendants of the old families who once poſſeſſed the country, of which they ſtill preſerve the full memory, inſomuch, that a gentleman's labourer will regularly leave to his ſon, by will, his maſter's eſtate.

Ireland has very few ſuch farmers as Mr. Aldworth; for above 600 acres in tillage is ſuch a buſineſs as I have no where met with. In his improvements, turnips formed a conſiderable article; in the year 1772 he began with them, one acre: in 1774 he had two acres: in 1775, five acres: and this year, eight. He has always hoed them, but not yet in any perfection, though improving. He fed them on the land with ſheep hurdles; they were chiefly fat wethers, and the benefit he found very great; being able, by no other means, to keep them fat, which the turnips did in great perfection. He alſo carted ſome off for ſtall-feeding bullocks and cows, which anſwered perfectly well. A very great advantage he found from turnips in the barley which ſucceeded, being incomparably better than after any other preparation. Mr. Aldworth is, upon the whole, ſo well perſuaded of the advantage of the culture, that he is determined to increaſe the quantity every year, till he gets a fourth part of his farm under them. The effect of lime was never diſplayed in a clearer manner than upon Mr. Aldworth's farm. The ſoil, I ſhould obſerve, is a loam and brick clay, on a rock of lime-ſtone, from nine inches to three feet deep on it; but what is remarkable, all the looſe ſurface ſtones are grit, and all the quarries lime-ſtone. Upon this ſoil he has found the benefit ſurpriſingly great: where he limes he gets very good crops; and where he does not he can get no crops at all. In my life I never ſaw this clearer diſplayed than in two of his fields this year, one wheat and the other barley; in each there was about an acre not limed, but all the reſt had 100 barrels an acre; the parts limed had a very fine crop, but thoſe two ſpots a wretched one; literally ſpeaking, not worth mowing; and another ſmaller patch in the barley field the ſame; the crop excellent to an inch where the lime was laid, and immediately adjoining nothing but weeds. Another experiment, ſhewing the great efficacy of it, was a compariſon he made of it with the ſheep fold; he folded part without liming in a field, the reſt of which was limed, and the ſuperiority of the latter part was very great. Mr. Aldworth ſpreads it on his fallows for wheat, and on his potatoe-land for barley. It is to be noted that this land was never limed before. Upon another part of his farm which had been limed, he does not find the benefit to be equal. He burns his lime in both running and ſtanding kilns; in the former with culm, and the expenſe to him is 8d. a barrel roach. In the ſtanding kilns he burns without breaking the ſtones, 1500 barrels at a time with faggots, and in this way it is 6d. a barrel. Theſe kilns, he remarks, ſhould be built with very great ſtrength, or the extreme heat of the fire burſts the maſonry. His liming has been upon ſo extenſive a ſcale, that laſt year he had ſeven kilns burning, two of them ſtanding ones, and burned in all above 10,000 barrels, and as much this year, all for manuring his own farm. Mr. Aldworth has erected a bolting-mill which will grind 5000 barrels of wheat, and it is curious to obſerve the effect of it as a newly-eſtabliſhed market: the firſt year he ground 1100 barrels, being all he could get; the next year, the preſent, it will be 5000. He has alſo taken pains to improve the breed of ſheep, by buying Engliſh ewes. The ſame attention he has given to ſwine and various other articles. Reynold's turnip-cabbage he has planted two years for late feeding of ſheep in the ſpring: he finds them of excellent uſe, and is determined never to be without them. He began to plant hops in 1772 upon half an acre of land, a fine rich red loam a yard deep; they ſucceeded perfectly well; and the ſecond year yielded 8 cwt. the half acre of as good hops as ever he met. In 1773 he added two acres: in 1775 he planted another acre: laſt year the crop failed, not getting above 3 or 4 cwt. This year he has a very good appearance. Has not found the climate at all againſt them; and is clear that it may be a very advantageous branch of culture. He, however, remarked, that they are not ſo ſtrong as Engliſh hops, owing, perhaps, to want of experience in drying, &c. He manures them every third year. Mr. Aldworth is the only perſon in this country that folds his ſheep; he finds the practice very uſeful, but not equal, as obſerved before, to lime.

September 11th, accompanied Mr. Aldworth and family to his neighbour Mr. Hyde's, on the banks of the Black Water, which are very chearful, and many of the views fine, particularly from the yard, of a new church on the river: paſs many large woods in ſight. Mr. Hyde's is a place entirely of his own forming. The lawn before the houſe has a very pleaſing inequality of ſurface, and the whole ſcenery well improved and cheerful.

It was with regret I left ſo agreeable and liberal a family as that of Annſgrove, nor ſhould I forget to mention that every thing about the place had a much nearer reſemblance to an Engliſh than an Iriſh reſidence, where ſo many *fine* places want *neatneſs*, and where, after great expenſe, ſo little is found *complete*. Mrs. Aldworth has ornamented a beautiful glen, which winds behind the houſe, in a manner that does honour to her taſte; ſhe has traced her paths ſo as to command all the beauties of rock, wood, and a ſweet river which glides beneath both: it is a moſt agreeable ſcenery.

September 12th, to Doneraile, with Mr. Aldworth. In our way called on a woollen manufacturer, Mr. Hannam, at Kilbrack, who gave me the following particulars of the trade. It conſiſts in buying the wool about the country, and combing it upon their own account. The combers earn 10s. a week, or 40 balls at 3d. The fleeces he buys weighs 5lb. on an average. To every 22 ſtone of rough fleece there are 3 ſtone of ſhort, coarſe, and waſte; 2 ſtone of the 3 are worth 10s. a ſtone, for coarſe works, frizes, &c. the third ſtone 13s. 4d. The remaining 19 ſtone of combing wool give 8 balls each of 24 ounces. To each ſtone there is one pound and three quarters of pinions of ſhort wool that comes out in the combing. Theſe balls are given to women to ſpin, and 9d. a ball is paid them for it; a woman can ſpin the balls in two days and a half if ſhe ſticks to it all day; in three days and do trifles beſides. Then the worſted, in ſkains twelve to the ball, is ſent to Corke or Limerick for exportation. Not above one-ſixth part, to his knowledge, is woven at home. Employs ſeven weavers making ſerges. Forty-four beer ſerges ſell at 1s. 2d. a yard; is 29 inches broad, and the pieces 136 yards long. Pays two-pence halfpenny a yard for weaving, and a man weaves eight in a day; he weaves a piece in three weeks, and loſes one day in that time in preparing his loom. The Connaught wool he prefers; it is of a middling length, and a fine ſtaple: finds that the ſhort wool is the fineſt. At Charleville there are thirty looms in it. The ſerges are all ſent to

Dublin to a factor, who ſells them at 5l. per cent. commiſſion. Are in general ſent to Scotland. The demand for them is better than it was: it has been improving for three years. But the prices of both ſerges and worſted have not riſen proportionally to that of wool.

An eſtimate of the cloathing trade.

20 combers would comb in a year 5000 ſtone of wool at 16s. per ſtone - -	4000	0	0
The ſaid combers would comb 800 balls a week, at 3d. per ball, comes to 10l. in the year - - -	520	0	0
300 women and girls to ſpin the above, and which would be the advantage of the clothier, to form into three houſes or factories of 100 each; their hire, at 9d. a ball, comes to - - - - -	1560	0	0
60 weavers would weave up the ſaid worſted, at 8d. each a day, 24l. a week, the year	1248	0	0
50 little boys and girls employed in ſaid weaving, at 3d. a day each, comes to 3l. 15s. per week, in the year - - -	195	0	0
430			
Oil and ſoap would coſt in the year -	368	0	0
Carriage of wool, woollen goods, &c. -	100	0	0
Sorting wool, waſhing it, &c. - -	80	0	0
	8071	0	0
The year's profit I ſuppoſe to be -	350	0	0
The yearly ſum brought into the country where ſuch trade is carried on - - £.	8421	0	0

A very important information is to be drawn from this eſtimate, which is the proportion of labour to the wool in this manufactory.

Wool, at 16s.		4000
Combing	520	
Spinning	1560	
Weaving	1443	
Sorting and carriage	180	
Labour		3703
Oil and ſoap		368
		£. 8071

Hence therefore it appears that wool at 16s. labour and drugs equal it, and that labour alone is as nine one-fourth to ten.

Let me not forget here to remark, that the country, within two or three miles of Doneraile, ranks among the beſt I have ſeen in Ireland; it is varied, much improved, well wooded, and very chearful.

To Lord Doneraile's, to whom I am indebted for a variety of uſeful intelligence; the ſituation of his houſe is on a beautiful riſing ground, which ſlopes down to a winding vale, in which is a ſmall river, accompanied by wood; from this river, on the other ſide, the grounds (all lawn) riſe very boldly, and are entirely margined with wood: from the higher grounds the view of the houſe and park is fine, eſpecially at the gate which opens to Kilbrack, there the houſe is ſeen ſurrounded by very noble woods and a great variety of cultivated incloſures intermixed with fields and thickly-planted hedges: the whole ſcene ſo pleaſing, that it appeared to full advantage, though I had rode to it through a beautiful and even-dreſſed country in part of the way from Annſgrove. Near the houſe is a ſhrubbery, through which there are paths that lead to different parts of the farm, through new plantations, and in particular to a cottage, from whence there is a fine wooded ſcene, with the park lawn riſing above it, ſcattered with ſingle trees, and bounded by a margin of wood; the whole backed by diſtant mountains. The plantations and improvements which lead to and ſurround this cottage are the work of Lady Doneraile, and do credit to her taſte.

Reſpecting his Lordſhip's huſbandry the following particulars deſerve the attention of the reader. Three years ago he procured ewes from Leiceſterſhire, in order to improve the breed. The ſheep which were here before took three to a ſtone of wool, but now only two, and the wool is to the full as good as ever; and he finds that they are much more thriving and advantageous to keep, and eaſier fed than the ſheep of the country: ſheep, his Lordſhip finds the moſt advantageous ſtock of all others: he keeps ſix to the acre winter and ſummer. This he finds much more profitable than keeping cows or fat cattle. Has tried many breeds of cattle, and finds that the long-horned Engliſh cow is the beſt for fattening. The Holderneſs for giving much thin poor milk, but are too heavy for winter feeding. The Kerry cow is much the beſt for milking in quantity of good milk. Hogs he has alſo tried of all ſorts, and finds that nothing is ſo profitable as the black Indian breed with ſhort legs, round carcaſes, and ſnub noſes. For working, he finds the ſmall mongrel Kerry beaſt works the beſt, and moves the faſteſt. He works them all by the horns, in the manner practiſed in the ſouth of France, four in a plough at the firſt ploughing. He changed the manner in which Lord Shannon brought it over, from the yoke which couples them, to going ſingle with double traces; this he finds much the moſt beneficial manner; they move quicker and with greater power, from being free and working not in couples; beſides being applicable to all ſorts of work which requires their going ſingle. Engliſh waggons Lord Doneraile has tried and laid aſide, from finding, on experience, that they are very much inferior to the common Iriſh car in hay harveſt, dung, lime, &c. but he uſes one-horſe carts for many ſorts of work. Turnips he has cultivated for ſome years, hoes them, and gets good crops, but beſt in the drill way, the rows two feet aſunder; he uſes them in feeding ſheep, and alſo fattening beaſts. He finds that they are not of any conſiderable uſe in this country, compared to others where there is not an equal plenty of graſs, which ſprings all winter; and that they will fatten a beaſt better. When moſt wanted, which is in April and the beginning of May, they are gone. Cabbages he has tried upon a large ſcale three years; laſt year and the year before, he had 8 or 9 acres, and uſed them in feeding and fattening cattle and ſheep; has found them preferable to turnips far, in all uſes in feeding cattle; but an acre of the latter will produce much more. Fern he finds is beſt deſtroyed by mowing it twice a year in June, and the beginning of September. He makes his tillage exceedingly profitable by the uſe of lime. His courſe of crops,

1. Wheat, yielding 10 barrels per acre, and has meaſured 15 barrels, 15 ſtone per acre. 2. Barley, the produce 14, 15 barrels, and of ſmall barley, 6 rowed 20. 3. Oats 20 barrels. 4. Clover laid down to graſs, or for one year, and ploughed it up as ſoon as cleared of the hay.

Lime he ſpreads on all lands for wheat or barley, &c. 80 barrels of roach an acre coſts 6d. a barrel burning. The effect is amazingly great, inſomuch that it is the difference between a great and a bad crop. In general there is no ground worth 20s. an acre, that if you lime it 80 barrels, and take wheat, barley, and oats, it will then be worth 30s. This is certainly a marvellous improvement! Lord Doneraile knows, from an experiment of his brother's, that it is equally well adapted to boggy bottoms; he had five acres, which he ſet for 10s. 6d. the whole, and was ſo hard a bargain to the poor men, that an allowance was made for it. His brother took it, and limed it, and then mowed *five tons of hay per Engliſh acre*, one of the ſtrongeſt proofs of the benefit of lime that can be given. In his Lordſhip's park he has a wheel for raiſing water, an improvement on the Perſian, which raiſes a regular ſtream 28 feet; the ſtream which turns it is confined by a double wall to the exact dimenſion of the boxes, which take in the water, and it works conſtantly and regularly without trouble or expenſe. Lord Doneraile has erected a granary upon a new conſtruction, that of a flue in the walls for a fire to air the whole building, and dry any damp corn that may happen to be in it. He dried the walls after building with it perfectly in a ſhort time. This granary is ſo completely built, that not a mouſe can poſſibly get in it: he has a thorough air, with lattice windows of wire. By the way, theſe flues are a proof, if one was wanting, how much moiſter the climate of Ireland is than that of England. He has planted the cluſter potatoes, called here *bulls* and *bucks*, ſo much as 6 or 7 acres; gave them to horſes, cows, and ſheep: the horſes that would eat them did well, and in a little time believes would all come very well to them. Fat cows and bullocks did exceedingly well: fat ſheep were put to them; but ſeveral dying both years, made him leave the practice off. Of other ſorts of potatoes, he finds the *London lady* and the *apple* to be the beſt ſorts. The London lady is particularly valuable for one circumſtance, which is the ſtalks withering, and the crop being ready to take up, from a month to ſix weeks before any other ſort; conſequently, the beſt ſort to plant as a preparative to wheat. Hops he has planted two years ago, in order to ſee how far they will anſwer; and expects to be able to get not only good hops, but a great crop. One mode of managing them he has in meditation, which is a good thought, and that is to train them horizontally inſtead of perpendicularly, like eſpalier, on account of the ſtorms and blights which hops, in the common way, are ſubject to from the height. Has compared the rotton lime-ſtone and lime in a 20 acred field for wheat, 10 of the one and 10 of the other, and found the wheat equal: both very good. Has obſerved the common farmers, after manuring with it, to take 12 and 14 crops of white corn running and then leaving it for graſs, which not coming, they complain that it is not good for graſs, but burns it up. But Lord Doneraile adviſed a friend to lay down, after two or three crops, which being done, the graſs that followed was perfectly fine.

Lord Doneraile's lime-kiln is one of the compleateſt I have any where ſeen; it is at bottom 16 inches diameter, leads up to 12 feet wide in the buldge, and 20 feet high from the bottom to the buldge, 7 feet from the buldge up, and at the top 9 feet diameter. Over the top, a roof and a porch to it, and it draws 44 barrels of roach lime a day, which takes 6 of culm; burns for 5½ a barrel. The culm 2s. 5d. a barrel at the kiln. Labour 4s. Culm 15s. a day.

September 13th, left Doneraile, and went to Colonel Jephſon's at Mallow. He was at that time confined with the gout; but his ſon, Denham Jephſon, Eſq; (member for Mallow) took every means for my information, in the circumſtances I enquired after. About that place:

1. Potatoes on ſtubbles, or graſs dunged 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat or Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. The meaſure the Engliſh acre.

Of potatoes they plant 6 common barrels, and get 42 in the crop: ſometimes take three or four ſucceſſive ones. Of wheat they ſow 3 pecks and a half each, 3 *cluggets*, each clugget 11 quarts, and get 8 barrels. The crop of bere is 12. Of oats 12. Rents of town parks 2l. 2s. to 3l. other lands 10s. to 30s. average 12s. There are many dairies, up to 60 cows, which are all ſet to dairymen, at 50s. to 3l. 10s. of good land it will take one acre and a half to feed a cow. They make both butter and cheeſe, and where the latter is made, no butter, ſelling the cheeſe at 4d. a pound. A cow makes one cwt. of butter in the ſeaſon. When cows are let, none are taken that do not give 2 gallons of milk; good cows give 4 gallons. Colonel Jephſon had a cow half bred, between the Engliſh long horned and Holderneſſe, that was forced to be milked three times a day and gave 12 gallons a day, many times in the preſence of various perſons. Every dairyman is allowed a houſe, a garden of one acre and a half, and graſs for a horſe, a cow, and ſome a collop of ſheep. Great quantities of lime are uſed: they lay 100 barrels an acre, at 1s. 1d. They plough with horſes, four or ſix to a plough. The poor pay 10s. rent for a cabin, and 20s. for one acre for potatoes; 2l. 2s. for graſs for a cow, and 10s. for the winter's hay. They live upon potatoes generally the year through; all of them keep cows and pigs, which latter they feed on ſmall potatoes. Their circumſtances are not better than 20 years ago; for though they have now 6d. and then had but 5d. yet the riſe is not proportioned to that of rents. Villages of cottars will take farms in partnerſhip in the manner I have often deſcribed. The ſoil of the country is in general limeſtone; but from Knockerera mountain, near Mallow to Corke, there is no lime-ſtone.

Leaſes are thirty-one years, or three lives, and ſome for three lives and thirty-one years after; and many farms let to middle-men, who occupy no part of the land themſelves, but re-let it. Above one-third of the county is waſte land.

There are collieries about ten miles off, near Kantark, from which coal is ſold at 3s. a barrel,

rel; it is large and hard. Upon the river Blackwater, there are tracts of flat land in ſome places one quarter of a mile broad; the graſs every where remarkably fine, and lets at 30s. It is the fineſt ſandy land I have any where ſeen, of a reddiſh brown colour, would yield the greateſt arable crops in the world, if in tillage; it is five feet deep, and has ſuch a principle of adheſion, that it burns into good brick, yet it is a perfect ſand. In floods much of it is overflown. The banks of this river, from its ſource to the ſea, are equally remarkable for beauty of proſpect, and fertility of ſoil.

There is but little manufacturing in Mallow; even ſpinning is not general. Mr. Jephſon manures his lands very highly with all ſorts of dung and fullage of the ſtreets of Mallow, which is conſtantly bringing away; by means of this regular attention, united with the goodneſs of the ſoil, he has brought it into that high degree of heart, indicated by the rent, at which it would let. The whole is divided into fields, of a moderate ſize, with double quick hedges, well planted with trees, and kept in the moſt perfect degree of neatneſs; between the hedges are gravel walks, ſo that there is a planted communication about all the fields; the gates are neat and light, and every attention preſerved to give the whole the appearance of a *ferme orne*. The quantity of tillage is not conſiderable, but his crops very great, barley up to twenty barrels per acre. Mules he finds more uſeful and hardy than horſes; has ſome very fine ones. Mr. Jephſon has weighed to the dragoons, at the barracks, from twenty-eight acres of graſs, three and a quarter tons of hay, per Engliſh acre. He has kept a particular account of his domain, and has kept his deer, horſes, cows, houſe, &c. and ſold to the amount of 55s. an acre beſides. I walked to the ſpring in the town to drink the water, to which ſo many people have long reſorted; it reſembles that of Briſtol, preſcribed for the ſame caſes, and with great ſucceſs. In the ſeaſon there are two aſſemblies a week. Lodgings are five ſhillings a week each room, and thoſe ſeemed to be miſerably bad. Board thirteen ſhillings a week. Theſe prices, in ſo cheap a country, amazed me, and would, I ſhould fear, prevent Mallow from being ſo conſiderable as more reaſonable rates might make it, unleſs accommodations proportionable were provided. There is a ſmall canal, with walks on each ſide, leading to the ſpring, under cover of ſome very noble poplars. If a double row of good lodgings were erected here, with public rooms, in an elegant ſtyle, Mallo would probably become a place for amuſement, as well as health.

September 14th, to New Grove, the ſeat of Robert Gordon, Eſq; in whom I met with the greateſt zeal for giving me a correct information. Paſſing, at ſome diſtance, a very large houſe building, to the right of the road, in a good ſituation, by Sir Robert Dean. New Grove is an entire new improvement of Mr.

Gordon's, the whole place, ſome years ago, being a waſte moor, or mountain, as it is called in Ireland.

Mr. Gordon took it for improvement; the ſoil and bog five to nine ſpits deep, and under it a black earth, or a reddiſh ſand, and in ſome a whitiſh clayey ſubſtance, but not marle; many ſprings in it, which were carried off by drains; and then the whole ſurface of turf cut out, and carried to Cork: cutting, &c. 30s. a 100, and ſold there at 5l. this was done in order to get lime, which is not upon the land, and by this means the line came to ſeven-pence halfpenny a barrel; found many ſtones and great roots, and timbers, which were all cleared away, and the land ploughed with oxen, before winter; then left the winter three ploughings given in the ſpring, and fifty barrels of lime, ſpread and ſown with oats and clover; the crop very great; could be ſold however, for 4l. an acre; the clover fine. This was cut for hay, and the ſecond weighed 231lb. per Engliſh perch ſquare, and a horſe that was ſtarved nine hours, eat in twenty-four hours 107lb. And after theſe two cuttings, there was a third for ſoiling with in October; it was then ſowed with a ſecond crop of oats, and that with clover which was left, and has been mown every year for eleven years ſince; this was one field in particular, but all in the ſame manner, and would let for one pound an acre readily; all expences of the 3 crops, including the lime, coſt 6l. 7s. 9d. an acre, ſo that the mere improvement was profitable, beſides the increaſe of rent alſo improved. At Carrickduff, 650 acres of heath, &c. the black ſoil thin, and the heath low, and under it a brown loam, with whitiſh gravel, mixed. Fallowed it with ſtrong ploughs, fourteen inches deep for a year; then limed it, 50 barrels an acre, at ſeven pence three farthings on the land, burnt on the ſpot, and upon this ſowed oats and clover for a meadow, the oats great, and the graſs part of it actually let at 1l. 1s. and all would let ſo. Has proſecuted this improvement with ſuch ſpirit, that laſt year he laid on 10,000 barrels of lime, and has 73 acres oats, 34 wheat, 12 potatoes, and 100 laid to graſs, and all this in two years. Has there built a farm-office, 154 feet long, a barn, ſtalls for thirty bullocks, two ſtables, and a room for the ſteward; and has made 1750 perch of ditches, planted with quicks. Theſe Mr. Gordon does in two years, half the ditch in one to leave it to ſink, and the other half the year after. Turnips he has had, and got very fine crops of 6lb. the average turnip; they thin them by hand, which he thinks upon this land is preferable to hoeing; uſed the crop in ſtall-feeding 30 bullocks, which had, beſides the turnips, half a hundred weight of hay to ſix each day, and found that they throve exceedingly well on ſuch turnips as were not above three to ſix pounds weight, but upon the large ones they did not thrive. In November he cleared the field of all, ſtacked them, and found them keep perfectly till April. Found that the ſheep, fed at New Grove, would not take to turnips till ſtarved to them.

Imported a man from Norfolk, whom he gave forty guineas a year with board, who brought ploughs, hoes, &c. with him; gave him a guinea for every boy he taught to plough, and every boy who could fairly plough, had a ſhilling a day wages. By this means he has collected a ſet of excellent ploughmen, who have been of infinite uſe, ſo that he has to this day ploughed with Norfolk and Suffolk ploughs, worked with a pair of horſes, and no driver except the firſt and ſecond ploughing of freſh land, which, and dragging, he does with great drags of 18 cwt. and drawn by bullocks. This improvement is of particular conſequence, as there are here twelve miles ſquare of rich land, taken almoſt in a ſquare between Mallow and Corke, one way, and the Bagra mountains and Nagles the other; upon all which there is not a ſtone to interrupt the plough, ſometimes not a ſtone to an acre.

He is convinced, from experience, that the worſt of this vaſt tract may be drained, incloſed, limed with fifty barrels, and tilled with a crop of oats on it, for 5l. an acre. In the neighbourhood, a great improvement of 1200 acres, without lime or gravel, and badly done yet, at 12s. an acre, ſix-7ths of the county of Corke at 2s. an acre, one-7th, 10s. of Kerry, nine-10ths, at 1s. and one-10th at 10s.

Six years ago, Mr. Gordon eſtabliſhed a linen manufactory, and bleach mill, upon the completeſt ſcale; a factory of eleven looms for damaſk, bleacher's houſe and other buildings, with a reſervoir of water for turning the wheel; the whole well-built, well-contrived, and at the expence of 1200l. Kept theſe looms conſtantly at work, and at the ſame time bleached many pieces for the country people. Truſted to a manager for the conduct of the works, who broke, which put a ſtop to them, otherwiſe there would have been a flouriſhing manufactory eſtabliſhed. Spinning flax coming in, but the woollen through the country; and from hence to the north-weſt Duhallow Barony is the great country for ſpinning cotton.

September 15th, to Blarney Caſtle, S. J. Jefferys, Eſq; of whoſe great works in building a town at Blarney, I cannot give ſo particular an account as I wiſh to do; for I got there juſt as he and his family were on the point of ſetting out for France. I did not however let ſlip the time I had for making ſome enquiries, and found that in 1765, when Mr. Jefferys began to build this town, it conſiſted only of two or three mud cabins; there are now 90 houſes. He firſt eſtabliſhed the linen manufactory, building a bleach-mill, and houſes for weavers, &c. and letting them to manufacturers from Corke, who have been ſo ſucceſsful in their works, as to find it neceſſary to have larger and more numerous edifices, ſuch as a large ſtamping mill for printing linens and cottons, to which is annexed another bleach-mill, and ſince there has been a third erected; the work carried on is that of buying yarn, and weaving it into linens,

nens, ten pence to thirty pence white; alſo diapers, ſheeting, ticking, and linens and cottons of all ſorts printed here, for common uſe and furniture. Theſe ſeveral branches of the linen, employ 130 looms, and above 300 hands.

Another of Mr. Jefferys objects has been the ſtocking manufacture, which employs 20 frames, and 30 hands, in buildings erected by him; the manager employing, by covenant, a certain number of apprentices, in order by their being inſtructed, to diffuſe the manufactory. Likewiſe a woollen manufactory, a mill for milling, tucking, &c. broad cloths; a gigg mill for gloſſing, ſmoothing, and laying the grain; and a mill for knapping, which will dreſs above 500 pieces a year, but will be more, when ſome alterations now making are finiſhed. A leather mill for dreſſing ſhamoy, buck, or ſkins, fully employed. A large bolting mill, juſt finiſhed, and let for 132l. a year. A mill, annexed to the ſame, juſt finiſhing, for plating; and a blade mill for grinding edged tools. A large paper mill, which will be finiſhed this year. He has been able to erect this multiplicity of mills, thirteen in all, by an uncommon command of water.

The town is built in a ſquare, compoſed of a large handſome inn, and manufacturers houſes, all built of excellent ſtone, lime, and ſlate. A church, by the firſt fruits, and liberal addition of above 300l. from Mr. Jefferys. A market-houſe, in which are ſold a hundred pounds worth of knit ſtockings per week. Four bridges, which he obtained from the county, and another (the flat arch) to which he contributed a conſiderable ſum. Much has been done, yet is not the deſign near finiſhed.

To ſhew the magnitude of theſe works, and the degree of public good reſulting from them, I ſhall mention the expence at which they have been executed. Reſpecting the principal bleach mill, Meſſrs. Foreſt and Donnoghue, under the linen act, took 15 acres, at a guinea an acre, upon which they have expended 5000l. in erecting a linen mill and bleach green, twenty-five houſes for twenty-five weavers families, four looms in each houſe, a large dwelling-houſe for themſelves or their director; in each houſe, a man, his wife, three apprentices, two girls and two boys, beſides young infants. In a ſhort time the farm was increaſed, and land, which before had only brought half a guinea, then let for a guinea. The linen board advanced 500l. to this work, and Mr. Jefferys repaid them 1400l. of the 5000l. The old rent of the premiſes was 40l. a year, the new rent 71l. Another bleach mill, which coſt Mr. Jefferys 300l. to which the board added 300l. and the perſon to whom it is let, 600l. 40 acres of land, formerly let at 10l. a year, go with them. The whole rent now 80l. To this mill is ſince added an oat-mill, which coſt 300l. two tuck-mills, 200l. a leather mill and kilns, 150l. two dwelling-houſes, 300l. A ſtamping-mill, which coſt Mr. Jefferys 2,300l. to which the board added 300l. promiſing 1000l. more when the works ſhould be finiſhed, which they have been theſe two years. Twelve printing tables are kept going, and ſixty-five hands employed. Twelve printers. Twelve tire boys. Three print cutters. Eighteen bleachmen. Six pencillers. Two tubmen. One clerk. One callender. One manager. Two draughtſmen. Four coppermen. Three carters. Beſides the above ſums, the manufacturer has laid out 500l. The quantity of land occupied is 25 acres: old rent, 6l. 10s. new, 113l. 15s.

A ſtocking factory, for which Mr. Jefferys lent 200l. The man laid out 300l. himſelf; he occupies 50 acres, before let at 20l. a year; now at 76l. 11s. A gigg-mill, for which Mr. Jefferys lent 300l. till repaid by the Dublin Society, who granted 300l. towards it, and the tenant laid out 200l. the quantity of land he has is eleven acres, let at 5l. 10s. now at 36l.

A manufactory of tape is eſtabliſhed, by which means 6 acres of land are advanced, from 2l. 8s. to 9l. They have three looms going, which makes 102 pieces a day of 36 yards each. The Dublin Society gave 20l. to it. A paper mill, which has coſt Mr. Jefferys 1100l. and is not yet let. A bolting mill on which he has expended 1100l. the tenant 500l. on adding an iron mill. Twenty acres of land, rent before 9l. 10s. rent of the whole now 132l. 13s. The church has coſt Mr. Jefferys 500l. and the firſt fruits 500l. more. The new inn, 250l. and the tenant 300l. more. Seventy acres of land, before at 20l. a year, now at 83l. 9s. A dwelling-houſe, 250l. to which the tenant added 500l. Ninety acres of land, before let at 54l. the new rent is 74l. Twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which coſt 280l. Two dwelling-houſes and a forge, which coſt him 150l. and to which parliament granted 250l. more. Upon the whole, therefore, Mr. Jefferys has expended 7,630l. in theſe eſtabliſhments. Of public money there has been added 2,170l. and the tenants themſelves laid out 9,050l. in all, expended here 18,850l. beſides what Mr. Jefferys laid out on bridges, &c. in the whole, very near, if not full, 20,000l. upon matters of a public nature. In all theſe eſtabliſhments, he has avoided undertaking or carrying on any of the manufactures upon his own account, from a conviction that a gentleman can never do it without ſuffering very conſiderably. His object was to form a town, to give employment to the people, and to improve the value of his eſtate by ſo doing; in all which views it muſt be admitted, that the near neighbourhood of ſo conſiderable a place as Corke very much contributed: the ſame means which he has purſued would, in all ſituations, be probably the moſt adviſeable, though the returns made might be leſs advantageous. Too much can ſcarcely be ſaid in praiſe of the ſpirit with which a private gentleman has executed theſe works, which would undoubtedly do honour to the greateſt fortune.

To animate others to tread in ſuch laudable ſteps, I may remark, that even the profit of theſe undertakings is too much to be entirely forgotten; the expences are by no means barren ones; 327 acres let before theſe works at 167

167l. 18s. let afterwards at 682l. 8s. Profit 508l. 10s. without reckoning any thing for two dwelling-houſes, a forge, twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which may moderately be reckoned at 25l. a year, and yet let at rents of favour, in all 533l. 10s. which from 7630l. is 7 per cent. There, however, is no agriculture improvement that would not, with much greater certainty of continuance, pay 17. At the ſame time, however, there is a greater reverſionary advantage in the benefit reſulting from the increaſing of the rents at the expiration of the leaſes, upon undertaking theſe works, the longeſt of which is for no more than three lives. Another advantage which is felt already, is, the riſe in the prices of products at Blarney, which is a direct premium to agriculture, to the farmer, and to the landlord. Dairy cows, on all the adjacent farms, aroſe in two years from 3l. to 4l. a cow, as the weavers were happy to get milk and butter at the ſame price they ſold for in Corke. The ſame riſe took place on corn, potatoes, &c. Mr. Jefferys, beſides the above eſtabliſhments, has very much improved Blarney Caſtle and its environs; he has formed an extenſive ornamented ground, which is laid out with conſiderable taſte; an extenſive plantation ſurrounds a large piece of water, and walks lead through the whole; there are ſeveral very pretty ſequeſtered ſpots where covered benches are placed.

Accompanied Mr. Jefferys, &c. to Dunkettle, the ſeat of Dominick Trent, Eſq; who with a liberality of ſentiment which renders him deſervedly eſteemed, took every meaſure I could wiſh for my information. The road leads very beautifully on the ſide of the harbour under a ſhore of bold hills, on which are many villas and ſome plantations. For the following particulars concerning the neighbourhood, I am indebted to Mr. Trent.

On the ſouth ſide of the river, &c. the ſoil is a fine lime-ſtone; the country level for a mile or two, then ſwelling into very gentle hills. On the north ſide, which is much better planted, particularly at Lota, Dunkettle, &c. the ground riſes in bold aſcents, adorned with many beautifully-ſituated country-houſes. Here the ſtratum is brown, or rather red ſtone, and the ſurface ſhallow; in ſome places a burning gravel. There is a good deal of arable land on the ſides of the hills. The courſe of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley or oats. 4. Lay down with ſeeds.

Potatoes yield per acre from 10l. to 20l. Average quantity fifty barrels, at eighteen ſtone each. Land manured and let to labourers for planting, at four or five guineas an acre. Wheat from ſeven to ten barrels of twenty ſtone, at 20s. a barrel; average price from 19s. to 24s. per barrel. The manures are Corke dung of the richeſt kind, eſpecially in the ſlaughtering ſeaſon; ſea ſand for tillage, and bank ſand from the river for graſs grounds. There is water-carriage to the eaſtward for many miles: ſeveral good quays for landing manure, particularly one at Glanmire, near Dunkettle, from which the inland inhabitants draw the manure four or five miles in one-horſe carts. Lime is alſo much uſed at a ſhilling a barrel. The meadows in this country yield from 1½ to 3 tons of hay per acre, at 40s. to 45s. per ton on an average. Dairies are let to dairymen at 4 to 5 guineas a cow. Many ſheep are kept on the hills, but none folded. The diet of the poor is potatoes and milk, with ſome fiſh in the herring and ſprat ſeaſon. Labourers houſes from 25s. to 40s. a year. Fuel a very little coal, the reſt ſupplied by buſhes, ſtolen faggots, &c. as there is no turf in this part of the country. Price of labour 6d. per day through the year, on a pinch in harveſt 8d. ſometimes more, but within the liberties of the city generally 8d. Women 3d. and 4d. a day in reeking corn: children from 1d. to 3d. in picking ſtones, &c. Moſt employed in country buſineſs; a few at ſome bolting iron and paper-mills in the neighbourhood. From fourteen acres of orchard Mr. Trent makes ſixty hogſheads a year of cyder; a clear acre of good trees about ſeven hogſheads. His hogs he feeds on the bull potatoes, which yield great crops without dung, and for two or three years ſucceſſively.

September 16th, to Cove by water, from Mr. Trent's quay. The view of Lota is charming; a fine riſing lawn from the water, with noble ſpreading woods reaching on each ſide; the houſe a very pleaſing front, with lawn ſhooting into the woods. The river forms a creek between two hills, one Lota, the other opening to another hill of incloſures well wooded. As the boat leaves the ſhore nothing can be finer than the view behind us; the back woods of Lota, the houſe and lawn, and the high bold incloſures towards Corke, form the fineſt ſhore imaginable, leading to Corke the city appearing in full view, Dunkettle wooded incloſures, a fine ſweep of hill, joining Mr. Hoare's at Factory-hill, whoſe woods have a beautiful effect. Dunkettle houſe almoſt loſt in a wood. As we advance, the woods of Lota and Dunkettle unite in one fine maſs. The ſheet of water, the riſing lawns, the houſe in the moſt beautiful ſituation imaginable, with more woods above it than lawns below it, the weſt ſhore of Loch Mahon, a very fine riſing hill cut into incloſures, but without wood, landlocked on every ſide with high lands, ſcattered with incloſures, woods, ſeats, &c. with every chearful circumſtance of lively commerce, has all together a great effect. Advancing to Paſſage the ſhores are various, and the ſcenery enlivened by fourſcore ſail of large ſhips; the little port of Paſſage at the water's edge, with the hills riſing boldly above it. The channel narrows between the great iſland and the hills of Paſſage. The ſhores bold, and the ſhips ſcattered about them, with the incloſures hanging behind the maſts and yards, pictureſque. Paſſing the ſtreights a new baſon of the harbour opens, ſurrounded with high lands. Monk's-town-caſtle on the hill to the right, and the grounds of Ballybricken, a beautiful intermixed ſcene of wood and lawn. The high ſhore of the harbour's mouth opens gradually. The whole ſcene is landlocked. The firſt view of Hawlbowling-iſland and Spike-iſland, high rocky lands, with the channel opening to Cove, where are a fleet of ſhips at anchor, and Roſtellan, Lord Inchiquin's houſe, backed with hills, a ſcenery that wants nothing but the accompanyment of wood. The view of Ballybricken changes; it now appears to be unfortunately cut into right lines. Arrived at the ſhip at Cove; in the evening returned, leaving Mr. Jefferys and family on board for a voyage to Havre, in their way to Paris.

Dunkettle is one of the moſt beautiful places I have ſeen in Ireland. It is a hill of ſome hundred acres broken into a great variety of ground, by gentle declivities, with every where an undulating outline, and the whole varied by a conſiderable quantity of wood, which in ſome places is thick enough to take the appearance of cloſe groves, in others ſpreads into ſcattered thickets and a variety of ſingle groups. This hill, or rather cluſter of hills, is ſurrounded on one ſide by a reach of Corke harbour, over which it looks in the moſt advantageous manner; and on the other by an irignous vale, through which flows the river Glanmire: the oppoſite ſhore of that river has every variety than can unite to form pleaſing landſcapes for the views from Dunkettle grounds; in ſome places narrow glens, the bottoms of which are quite filled with water, and the ſteep banks covered with thick woods that ſpread a deep ſhade; in others the vale opens to form the ſite of a pretty chearful village, over hung by hill and wood: here the ſhore riſes gradually into large incloſures, which ſpread over the hills, ſtretching beyond each other; and there the vale melts again into a milder variety of fields. A hill thus ſituated, and conſiſting in itſelf of ſo much variety of ſurface, muſt neceſſarily command many pleaſing views; to enjoy theſe to the better advantage, Mr. Trent (than whom no one has a better taſte both to diſcover and deſcribe the beauties of natural ſcenes) is making a walk around the whole, which is to bend to the inequalities of the ground, ſo as to take the principal points in view. The whole is ſo beautiful, that if I was to make the regular detour, the deſcription might be too minute: but there are ſome points which gave me ſo much pleaſure, that I know not how to avoid recommending to others that travel this way to taſte the ſame ſatisfaction: from the upper part of the orchard you look down a part of the river, where it opens into a regular baſon, one corner ſtretching up to Cork, loſt behind the hill of Lota, the lawn of which breaks on the ſwelling hills among the woods; the houſe obſcured, and therefore ſeeming a part of your home ſcene; the loſing the river behind the beautiful projection of Lota, is more pleaſing than can be expreſſed. The other reach, leading to the the harbour's mouth, is half hidden by the trees which margin the foot of the hill on which you ſtand: in front a noble range of cultivated hills, the incloſures broken by ſlight ſpots of wood, and prettily varied with houſes, without being ſo crowded as to take off the rural effect. The ſcene is not only beautiful in thoſe common circumſtances which form a landſcape, but is alive with the chearfulneſs of ſhips and boats perpetually moving. Upon the whole, it is one of the moſt luxuriant proſpects I have any where ſeen. Leaving the orchard paſs on the brow of a hill which forms the bank of the river of Glanmire, commanding the oppoſite woods of Lota in all their beauty. Riſe to the top of the high hill which joins the deer-park, and exhibits a ſcene equally extenſive and beautiful; you look down on a vale which winds almoſt around at your feet, finiſhing to the left in Corke river, which here takes the appearance of a lake, bounded by wood and hills, and ſunk in the bottom of a vale, in a ſtyle which painting cannot imitate; the oppoſite hills of Lota, wood, and lawn, ſeem formed as objects for this point of view: at your feet a hill riſes out of the vale, with higher ones around it, the margins ſcattered wood; to the right, towards Riverſtown, a vale; the whole backed by cultivated hills to Kallahan's field. Milder ſcenes follow; a bird's-eye view of a ſmall vale ſunk at your feet, through which the river flows; a bridge of ſeveral arches unites two parts of a beautiful village, the meadow grounds of which riſe gently, a varied ſurface of wood and lawn, to the hills of Riverſtown, the whole ſurrounded by delicious ſweeps of cultivated hills. To the left, a wooded glen riſing from the vale to the horizon, the ſcenery ſequeſtered, but pleaſing; the oak wood which hangs on the deer-park hill, an addition. Down to the brow of the hill, where it hangs over the river, a picturеſque intereſting ſpot. The incloſures on the oppoſite bank hang beautifully to the eye, and the wooded glen winds up the hill. Returning to the houſe I was conducted to the hill, where the grounds ſlope off to the river of Corke, which opens to view in noble reaches of a magnitude that fills the eye and the imagination: a whole country of a character truly magnificent, and behind the winding vale which leads between a ſeries of hills to Glanmire.

Pictures at Dunkettle.

A St. Michael, &c. the ſubject confuſed, by Michael Angelo. A St. Francis on wood, a large original of Guido. A St. Cecilia, original of Romanelli. An aſſumption of the virgin, by L. Carracci. A quaker's meeting, of above fifty figures, by Egbert Hemſkerk. A ſea view and rock piece, by Vernet. A ſmall flagellation, by Sebaſtian del Piombo. A madonna and child, ſmall, by Rubens. The crucifixion, many figures in miniature, excellent, tho' the maſter is unknown. An excellent copy of the famous Danae of Titian, at Monte Cavallo, near Naples, by Cioffi of Naples. Another of the Venus of Titian, at the tribuna in Florence. Another of Venus blinding Cupid, by Titian, at the Palazzo Borgheſe in Rome. Another of great merit of the madonna Della Sedia of Raphael, at the Palazzo Pitti in Florence, by Stirn, a German, lately at Rome. Another of an holy family, from Raphael, of which there are ſaid to be three originals, one at the king's palace in Naples, one in the *palais royal* in Paris, and the third in the collection of Lord Exeter, lately purchaſed at Rome. A portrait of Sir Patrick Trent, by Sir P. Lely. An excellent portrait of a perſon unknown, by Dahl.

September 17th, to Caſtlemartyr, the ſeat of the earl of Shannon, one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed improvers in Ireland, in whom I found the moſt earneſt deſire to give me every ſpecies of information, with a knowledge and ability which enabled him to do it moſt effectually. Paſſed through Middleton, a well built place, which belongs to the noble lord to whom it gives title. Caſtlemartyr is an old houſe, but much added to by the preſent earl; he has built, beſides other rooms, a dining one 32 feet long by 22 broad, and a drawing one, the beſt rooms I have ſeen in Ireland, a double cube of 25 feet, being 50 long, 25 broad, and 25 high. The grounds about the houſe are very well laid out; much wood well grown, conſiderable lawns, a river made to wind through them in a beautiful manner, an old caſtle ſo perfectly covered with ivy as to be a pictureſque object. A winding walk leads for a conſiderable diſtance along the banks of this river, and preſents ſeveral pleaſing landſcapes. But let me haſten to objects of more importance: Lord Shannon's huſbandry conſiſts of many circumſtances. I ſhall begin with

TURNIPS,

Which Lord Shannon has cultivated upon a very large ſcale, as will appear from the following particulars. His father began the culture many years ago, which he continued till 1770, and then went largely into it. He had every year, from 1770 to 1774 both incluſive, ſixteen acres, and in 1775, twenty-four. Has cultivated them in both broad caſt and the drill method the rows at three feet; but finding that the roots became too large, altered his method to eighteen inches, in order to have more of them; the ſize will be ſeen by the following account.

Caſtlemartyr, December 21ſt, 1771.

I this day meaſured a ſquare perch of turnips, 16½ feet, drilled in rows three feet apart; there were 84 turnips on this perch, they weighed 7 cwt. 2 qrs. which I compute to be 60 tuns to the Engliſh acre; and there were vacant ſpaces in the rows within this perch where the turnips had failed, that would have held at leaſt ten large turnips more. I then pulled 84 turnips, the largeſt I could ſee, within about fifteen yards of the above perch, and they weighed 15 cwt. 15 qrs. 17lb. which is about 125 ton, 29 cwt. 20lb. I weighed two of the above turnips ſeparately, one of them a white tankard, they each weighed 32lb. The white

Norfolk was three feet eight inches in circumference. N. B. I neither manured nor burned the ground; it was naturally good; I tilled it well, and hoed the crop carefully.

SHANNON.

One of the above turnips Lord Shannon took with him to the Dublin Society, where it was ſeen by the whole city; but from my tour through the kingdom, I am afraid it did not animate ſo many as it ought. Theſe large turnips were not raiſed in any peculiar ſpot, but were part of a field of eight or ten acres. The application of the crop has been generally by drawing and giving them to ſheep on dry paſtures; all ſorts of ſheep, but particularly fat ewes, they fattened admirably. Finds that the great benefit of the culture is having them near a very dry field, in order to manage them as above-mentioned. He has found that they will do exceedingly well without manuring, eſpecially if the land is an old rough paſture, or which wants to be broken up; fallowed well and thoroughly ploughed, produces great crops. Sea-weed his lordſhip has tried for them, ſpread about the thickneſs of dung, and it gave prodigious products. Upon the whole, he is clearly of opinion, that nothing can be more beneficial to the agriculture of Ireland than introducing this culture, and ſo well convinced of this, that he has always ſhewn his crops to farmers, weighed them before them, ſhewed the cattle fed, and took every pains to make them come into the culture, but in vain. As a preparation of corn they are incomparable; he has had very great crops of barley after them, ſuch as were laid with every heavy rain from luxuriance. Wheat alſo he has ſown after them, and got eight barrels an acre from ſeven ſtone of ſeed.

CABBAGES.

Lord Shannon cultivated alſo: generally had five or ſix acres for four or five years; the ſort the flat Dutch, and got very fine crops. Gave them to cattle of all ſorts, who eat them very greedily and did better upon them than upon turnips, but would not laſt longer than Chriſtmas, otherwiſe would have preferred them. The crops of corn after them neither better nor worſe than after turnips. Tried alſo the Scotch and other ſorts, but preferred the flat Dutch to any other. One great objection to both cabbages and turnips is the mildneſs of the ſeaſon in Ireland, which is ſo great as to burſt the cabbages, and make the turnips run to ſeed before their time. As to the graſs ſpringing ſo faſt in winter, as to prevent the neceſſity of the culture, he does not find it. Cabbages muſt be well manured for.

POTATOES.

Lord Shannon planted eighteen acres of potatoes with the plough, manuring only the furrows; horſe and hand-hoed them perfectly, to keep them free from weeds; did it twice, and purpoſed oftener, but the growth of the crop was ſo luxuriant that neither the horſe nor hoe could get through them. Took them up with the plough, and the crop proved exceedingly good, far better than they would have been in the common method.

DRILL HUSBANDRY.

Lord Shannon's expreſſion of this mode to me was excellent, *I read myſelf into it, and worked myſelf out of it.* He tried it with wheat, horſe and hand-hoeing it perfectly, and got a very fine crop; an unexceptionable one for the mode, but the produce was not equal to the common way, while the expenſe, trouble, and attention, were endleſs, ſo that he was convinced, even by his ſucceſs, that it could not be a beneficial mode of culture. For turnips alſo he prefers very much the broad-caſt mode, and never began the drill method but as an eaſe of hoeing.

SOILING.

Soiling horſes, &c. in ſummer, with graſs mown every day, Lord Shannon has practiſed greatly, and finds it highly beneficial, and particularly for raiſing great quantities of dung.

SEA-SAND AND LIME.

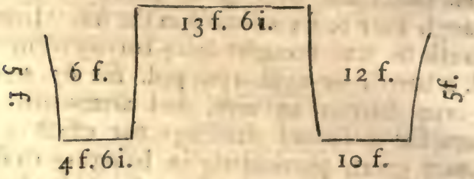
The manures which Lord Shannon uſes are ſea-ſand and lime. He prefers the latter for brown ſlaty ſtone land, and ſand for limeſtone land: has uſed great quantities of it, though four to ſix miles from the ſea. In one month he has brought 6719 barrels of it, at 5d. a barrel, or 139l. 19s. 9½d. for 67 acres, at 100 barrels an acre, and afterwards 50 more for a ſecond dreſſing: the effect of it is very great, particularly in bringing daiſies *(bellis)* on very poor land, and white clover when laid on good graſs lands. If a bag breaks, and ſome accidentally falls on a waſte, the man gathers it up as clear as he can, yet it is ſure to bring a patch of white clover. Lime his lordſhip burns in a long-necked kiln, which he finds to anſwer ſo well, that one barrel of culm burns ten of lime. He lets the kiln, and buys the lime at 1s. 4d. a barrel. Draws 26 barrels a day. The culm 4s. a barrel. The labourers hire 1d. a barrel, for quarrying, breaking, and burning.

BOUNTIES.

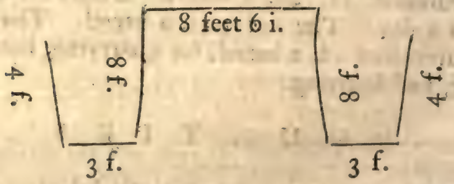
Lord Shannon's bounties to labourers amount to 50l. a year. He gives them by way of encouragement; but only to ſuch as can ſpeak Engliſh, and do ſomething more than fill a cart.

DITCHES.

His Lordſhip has made ſome ditches of an extraordinary dimenſion; the following ſegment:



The center of 13 feet 6 inches, is a terraſs between two ditches, broad enough to plant a hedge on each ſide of it, and have a riding between them: it is moſt completely done, and will anſwer the double purpoſe perfectly. He is alſo doing a good deal in the following dimenſions:



which coſts a ſhilling a perch, a double row of quick, and a walk or ride between.

LINEN MANUFACTORY.

Lord Shannon eſtabliſhed a factory at Cloghnickelty, in the year 1769, a bleach yard of ſeventeen acres of land, with mills, &c. for bleaching the pieces that are wove in the neighbourhood. There are 94 looms at work in the town, 100l. a week laid out in yarn, and at three fairs, 1800l. the amount of which is 7000l. a year; the cloth chiefly coarſe: and this eſtabliſhment has had great effect in increaſing the manufactures in the neighbourhood.

COMPOSTS.

He is exceedingly attentive in forming compoſts. A river runs through Caſtlemartyr, part of which is often full of ſand and mud; this he empties periodically and mixes it with lime. In one field I ſaw larger compoſt heaps of theſe materials, than I remember any where elſe to have obſerved; one of theſe was 105 yards long, nine broad, and four feet high,

containing cubical yards - -	1260
Another, 78 and 8 broad, and 4 feet high	832
Another, 155 by 5, and 4 feet high -	1033
Another, 76 by 5, and 4 feet high - -	506
Total - - -	3631

Among theſe hills were 2000 barrels, or 8000 buſhels of lime mixed: after this it is needleſs to ſay, that he manures his land with uncommon ſpirit.

WASTE LAND.

His Lordſhip has reclaimed 109 acres of furze land, which he has eradicated, and brought to a very profitable ſoil.

WALLING.

Lord Shannon has incloſed 380 acres with a moſt excellent wall, eight feet and a half high under the coping, and 8 inches above it. The wall is two feet thick at bottom, and 18 inches at top, and coſts 4s. per perch, or 1l. 16s. running meaſure.

BARN.

The beſt built barn I have ſeen in Ireland, is at Caſtle Martyr. The bays and threſhing floor are fourteen feet high, and over them are two ſtories for granaries, the firſt eight feet two inches high, and the upper one eight feet nine inches, beſides the roof, with a door in the center of the floors, and a wheel for winding ſacks up. It is built in ſuch a manner, the doors, &c. ſo plated every where at the edges with iron, that it is impoſſible a mouſe ſhould get in or out; or that a rat ſhould any where gnaw his way in. Upon clearing it laſt year, about twenty mice were found, that had been carried in in the ſheafs, a little ſtraw was laid for them in a corner, and the barn ſhut for a fortnight, at the end of which time they were found alive, and killed, not one being able to eſcape. I have ſeen very fine barns built in England, on capt ſtones, into which no vermin could get, unleſs carried in, but when they were carried in they had a million of ways to get out.

BULLOCKS DRAWN BY THE HORNS.

Lord Shannon upon going into tillage, found that the expenſe of horſes was ſo great, that it eat up all the profit of the farm; which made him determine to uſe bullocks; he did it in the common method of yokes and bows, but they performed ſo indifferently, and with ſuch manifeſt uneaſineſs, that he imported the French method of drawing by the horns; and in order to do this effectually, he wrote to a perſon at Bourdeaux to hire him a man who was practiſed in that method. Upon the correſpondent being applied to, he repreſented difficulties attending it, the man who was ſpoken to having been in Germany for the ſame purpoſe. Upon which Lord Shannon gave directions that every thing ſhould be bought and ſent over which the labourer wiſhed to bring with him. Accordingly, a bullock of the beſt ſort, that had been worked three years, was purchaſed; alſo a hay-cart, a plough, harrows, and all the tackle for harneſſing them by the horns, which, with the man, were ſent over. His ſalary was to be 400 livers a year, with board, &c. The bullock

lock, 218 livres; tackle for two bullocks, 36. Two carts, 314. A plough and harrow, 123, which, with other expenſes, came to 45l. 17s. and freight 16l. 16s. Upon the whole, the experiment coſt, from firſt to laſt, to bring it thoroughly to bear, about an hundred pounds. His Lordſhip is perſuaded, that the firſt year of his introducing it at large on his farm, ſaved him the whole. He has purſued the method ever ſince, and with the greateſt ſucceſs. He finds the bullocks ſo perfectly at their eaſe, that it is a pleaſure to ſee them; for firſt breaking up lays, and for croſs ploughing, he uſes four, but in all ſucceeding earths, only two; nor more for the firſt ploughing of ſtubbles; I ſaw ſix ploughs doing this in a wheat ſtubble, and they did it five or ſix inches deep with great eaſe. Upon firſt introducing it, there was a combination among all his men againſt the practice, but Lord Shannon was determined to carry his point; in this matter, he followed a courſe that had all imaginable ſucceſs: one lively ſenſible boy took to the oxen, and worked them readily. His Lordſhip at once advanced this boy to eight pence a day: this did the buſineſs at once; others followed the example, and ſince that he has had numbers who could manage them, and plough as well as the Frenchman. They plough an acre a day with eaſe; and carry very great loads of corn and hay, coals, &c. Four bullocks in the French cart brought twelve barrels of coals, ſhip meaſure, each 5 cwt. or three tons, but the tackle of the fore couple breaking, the other two drew the load above a mile to a forge. Two of them drew 35 cwt. of flag ſtone, three miles with eaſe; but Lord Shannon does not in common work them in this manner, three tons he thinks a proper load for four bullocks. Upon the bailiff, Mr. Bere, mentioning loads drawn by theſe oxen, that appeared to me moſt extraordinarily great, I expreſſed many doubts; his Lordſhip immediately ordered the French harveſt cart to be loaded half a mile from the reeks: it was done; 1020 ſheafs of wheat were laid on it, and two oxen drew it without difficulty; we then weighed forty ſheafs, the weight 251lb. at which rate the 1020 came to 6375 lb. or above three tons, which is a vaſt weight for two oxen to draw; I am very much in doubt whether in yoaks they would have ſtirred the cart ſo loaded.

Lord Shannon has an excellent way of managing all his cattle in one circumſtance, which is to mark them on the horn with numbers, and keeps a book ruled in columns, and engraved, by which means, on turning to the number, he ſees every particular of the beaſt, which are inſerted in the columns. He trains them for work at three to four years old, gently breaking them in at once, without any difficulty.

The common huſbandry about Caſtle Martyr, will be ſeen from the following account, for which particulars I am obliged to the attention of this patriotic nobleman, who took every method to have me well informed. Farms riſe from one hundred to three hundred acres, but ſome to one thouſand, of which ſize Lord Middleton has one. Farms not taken in partnerſhip ſo much as in other parts; two or three will take a farm of thirty or forty acres, but it is not general. The ſoil is various; the vale, from Carricktowel to Killay, of ten or twelve miles long, and four over, is of lime-ſtone; the hills are brown ſtone; the loam upon it is from three inches to eight feet, ſtrong, rich and good; dry in winter, and good turnip land. Theſe lime-ſtone rocks are full of cavities, and ſubterraneous paſſages, ſo that if you cut a drain to carry water off, and touch upon a lime-ſtone rock, probably all will find its way. Rent of the barony of Imokilly, on an average, twelve ſhillings an acre; Kilnataltan, eight ſhillings. A third part of the county is waſte land, the price of which is riſen extremely in a few years; rent, one ſhilling; the reſt of the county, eight ſhillings. The courſe of crops:

1. Potatoes, upon clay ground, dunged and ploughed at 3l. plant ſix barrels at two and a half cwt. produce 50 to 100 barrels; potatoes ſell 2s. to 4s. a barrel.

2. Wheat, ſow twelve ſtone, produce five barrels.

3. Oats, on one ploughing, ſow a barrel of fourteen ſtone, crop eight barrels. Some

poor people take one or two more crops of oats.

4. Lay out for graſs from two to twelve years. They ſometimes burn for potatoes, eſpecially on the abſentee eſtates, and get as good crops, as in the other way.

Expence of an acre of potatoes.

Rent — — —	3	0	0
Seed — — —	0	18	0
Planting and trenching, forty days of a man	1	0	0
Taking up and carrying home, &c. —	1	0	0
Tythe — — —	0	6	0
	£.6	4	0

PRODUCE.

Seventy barrels at 3s. —	10	10	0
Expences — — —	6	4	0
Profit — — —	£.4	6	0

A diſpute ariſing upon the produce of potatoes, Lord Shannon ordered ſome ſpades ſquare (each 5½ feet) to be taken up, and weighed them; the weight, on an average, 19lb. per ſpade, or 108 barrels per acre, each 252 lb. that is, 12 weights to the barrel, each 21lb. Theſe were his own potatoes, and not an extra crop at all. Barley is ſometimes put in inſtead of oats, and bere inſtead of wheat. A crop of bere produces 10 barrels; barley yields 8. No turnips or rape. A few of the better farmers ſow clover, but the number very inconſiderable. Flax is ſown by few of the common people in patches. Paring and burning is called graffing and burning is practiſed by the common farmers, upon ſuch eſtates as their landlords will permit. They manure with ſea ſand for corn, and ſea weed for potatoes; they will carry them three miles from the ſea: all make comports of ſand and earth. Dairies are numerous, from twenty to fifty cows ſet at 3l. a cow. The dairyman has his privilege, which is an acre of land for every ten cows, a good houſe and dairy; a collop for every 10 cows, and will keep 8 or 10 pigs. If not paid in money, it is one cwt. of butter and 12s. in money. A cow that gives two gallons a day the dairyman cannot reject: it will take three acres to a cow, but privilege and all is four acres. Very few flocks in this country; Mr. Robert Fitzgerald has 1000 to 1500: but the number too few to be worth mentioning. The poor people all keep a collop or two of ſheep, with which they clothe themſelves. They plough generally with four horſes, ſow with two, and uſe ploughs of ſo bad a conſtruction, that a man attends them with a ſtrong ſtick leaning on the beam to keep it in the ground.

Land ſells at twenty-five years purchaſe. Rents have not fallen; for very little of it is let at more than its value. Tythes are every where valued by the proctor by the acre. No emigrations from the county of Corke. The religion is almoſt univerſally catholic. Building a common cabbin 5l. two of ſtone, &c. for 31l. 10s. They carry half a barrel of ſea ſand on horſeback, fourteen miles from Corke to the mountains of Barrymore, and to Mr. Coppinger's, twenty-four miles, and it improves much for tillage: but it is carried when not to mountains in cars: it is not found to be ſo good as lime.

There is a woollen trade at Caſtle Martyr: Mr. James Pratt in particular buys wool in Tipperary and at Ballynaſloe. The beſt is the Connaught; it is the fineſt, and is ſhort; the longeſt is in the county of Carlow and Tipperary. In Carlow they keep the ſheep fattening a year longer, after buying in Tipperary. Tipperary wool 5lb. Carlow 6lb. Connaught 4½lb. In ſorting, the fine belly wool is ſeparated, the finer will make cloth of 10s. or 12s. a yard. The back and ſides are laid by for combing, the other is carded; about four fifths of the fleece is combed. Combs in his own houſe, employing 16 to 20 hands; pays them by the ball, 3d. each of 24 oz. and they earn 8 s. a week; theſe balls are given out to the poor people to ſpin, employing above a thouſand ſpinners. They ſpin a ball from 11 to 13 ſkain in four days, attending their family beſides. The value is 2s. 8d. per ball: are paid 9d. a ball. In this way of doing it there are not many tricks, being in general very honeſt. For 11 ſkains, 8d.—12—9d. 13—10d.—14—11d. They are ſorted and packed in packs of 180 balls, which ſell at 30l. a pack. It was never known to be higher than laſt year: twenty years ago it was 25l. a pack, about a fourth of what is ſpun in this part of the kingdom, is worked up at home. The trade has been a riſing one for two years.

Edward Roche, Eſq; of Kildining, gave me, at Caſtle Martyr, the following account of ſome improvements he has made. Has done 250 acres of mountain, and began upon 50 of bog; the former with paring and burning with ploughs, at 7s. and cutting and burning, 5s. 6d. in June and July. Limes with the aſhes, 50 barrels per acre, at 47 gallons, or 75, at 5d. Spread and plough in April or May; then ſet to poor people, at 30s. an acre. They trench in potatoes in the common way, get on an average ſixty barrels, then trench in rye or black oats, ſix men to an acre; crops ſix barrels of rye, 20 ſtone per barrel, at 7s. or 8s. and black oats, 10 kilderkins, at 11 ſtone; then white oats, 8 barrels, ſow graſs ſeeds one barrel, with them, and 8 lb. white clover, and 2 lb. rib-graſs. The land before not 6 d. an acre, could let it now at 7 s. Ploughs with ſix bullocks firſt, and four afterwards. Potatoe ſtalks he carries to his pound, but in general are left in heaps in the field, and are a nuiſance to ploughing. In Wicklow, they bleed their horſes and cows, and mix the blood with meal for food.

From Caſtle Martyr, September 20, to Caſtle Mary, the ſeat of —— Longfield, Eſq; who keeps a great quantity of land in his hands. Has cultivated the potatoes, called here bulls, that is, the Engliſh *cluſter*, very much for cattle, but nobody will eat them; he has from ſix to eleven acres yearly: plants them in the common manner, and gets 120 barrels an acre, of 20 ſtone each. I ſaw a ſpade of five feet and a half ſquare, dug the produce 23lb. on very poor land. On ſand and ſea weed the ſame ſpace of London ladies, weighed 27 lb. Manures for them with ſea ſand and weed, but not with dung; gives them to his horſes and bullocks: and when he gives his horſes potatoes, they have no oats. It is ſurpriſing to ſee how fond horſes are of them; they do very well on them raw, but the beſt way is to boil them, as they will then fatten the horſes. The bullocks are equally fond of them, and will follow him to eat them out of his hand. Sheep are the ſame, and will get into the fields to ſcrape them up: upon the whole, Mr. Longfield is perſuaded that no root or crop in the world is more beneficial to a farmer than this potatoe, ſo that he ſhould have continued in turnips, which he has cultivated largely but has found this root ſo perfectly uſeful, that he has experienced the abſolute dependence which may be placed on them for winter proviſion of all ſorts. And what is of infinite conſequence, the culture may be extended to what quantity you pleaſe, without the aſſiſtance of dung, without which other potatoes cannot be managed.

Mr. Longfield eſtabliſhed the linen manufacture here three years ago, by building a bleach mill and bleach green; he has 14 looms conſtantly at work upon his own account, who are paid for what they manufacture by the yard. The ſort generally made is from 900 to 1400, and makes 650 pieces of 25 yards length, annually; ſells, at preſent, from 23s. to 30s. a piece. The factory employs 50 hands; bleaches great quantities for the poor people. A great many weavers are ſcattered about the country, who bring their webs, &c. to be bleached here. The flax is raiſed, and the yarn ſpun at Clanikilty and Roſs, &c. in the weſt of the county. No woollen manufacture is carried on in this country. Mr. Longfield has always ploughed with oxen, which he has found far more advantageous than horſes. Clover he has cultivated long with very great ſucceſs, and finds it highly beneficial. The county of Corke two-thirds waſte, at a very low or no rate, the other third at 15s.

September 21ſt to Roſtellan, the ſeat of Lord Inchiquin, commanding a beautiful view of Corke harbour, the ſhips at Cove, the great iſland, and the two others which guard the opening of the harbour. It appears here a noble baſon of ſeveral miles extent, ſurrounded with high grounds, which want no other addition but woods. This view is ſeen in great perfection from the windows of two very good rooms, 25 by 35, which his Lordſhip has built in addition to the old caſtle.

From Roſtellan to Lota, the ſeat of Frederick Rogers, Eſq; I had before ſeen it in the higheſt perfection from the water going from Dunkettle to Cove, and from the grounds of Dunkettle. Mrs. Rogers was ſo obliging as to ſhew me the back grounds, which are admirably wooded, and of a fine varied ſurface.

Got to Corke in the evening, and waited on the Dean, who received me with the moſt flattering attention. Corke is one of the moſt populous places I have ever been in; it was market-day, and I could ſcarce drive through the ſtreets, they were ſo amazingly thronged: on the other days, the number is very great. I ſhould ſuppoſe it muſt reſemble a Dutch town, for there are many canals in the ſtreets, with quays before the houſes. The beſt built part is Morriſon's Iſland, which promiſes well; the old part of the town is very cloſe and dirty. As to its commerce, the following particulars I owe to Robert Gordon, Eſq; the ſurveyor general.

Average of nineteen years export, ending March 24, 1773.

Hides, at 1l. each — — —	64,000
Bay and woollen yarn — —	294,000
Butter, at 30s per cwt. from 56s. to 72s. —	180,000
Beef, at 20s. a barrel — —	291,970
Camblets, ſerges, &c. — —	40,000
Candles — — —	34,220
Carried over —	£. 904,190

Brought over	904,190
Soap	20,000
Tallow	20,000
Herrings, 18 to 35,000l. all their own	21,000
Glue, 20 to 25,000	22,000
Pork	64,000
Wool to England	14,000
Small exports, Gottenburgh herrings, horns, hoofs, &c. feather-beds, palliaſſes, feathers, &c.	35,000
	£. 1,100,190

Average prices of the 19 years on the cuſtom books. All exports on thoſe books are rated at the value of the reign of Charles the Second; but the imports have always 10 per cent. on the ſworn price added to them. Seventy to eighty ſail of ſhips belong to Corke. Average of ſhips that entered that port in thoſe 19 years, 872 per annum. The number of people at Corke muſtered by the clergy, by hearth-money, and by the number of houſes, payments to miniſter, average of the three, 67,000 ſouls, if taken before the 1ſt of September, after that 20,000 increaſed. There are 700 coopers in the town. Barrels, all of oak or beech, all from America: the latter for herrings, now from Gottenburgh and Norway. The exciſe of Corke now no more than in Charles the Second's reign. Ridiculous!

Cork old duties, in 1751, produced	£. 62,000
Now the ſame	140,000

Bullocks 16,000 head, 32,000 barrels; 41,000 hogs, 20,000 barrels. Butter 22,000. Firkins of half a hundred weight each, both increaſe this year, the whole being

240,000 firkins of butter
120,000 barrels of beef.

Export of woollen yarn from Corke, 300,000l. a year in the Iriſh market. No wool ſmuggled, or at leaſt very little. The wool comes to Corke, &c. and is delivered out to combers, who make it into balls. Theſe balls are bought up by the French agents at a vaſt price, and exported; but even this does not amount to 40,000 l. a year.

PRICES.

Beef, 21 s. per cwt. never ſo high by 2s. 6d. Pork, 30 s. never higher than 18 s. 6 d. owing to the army demand. Slaughter dung, 8d. for a horſe-load. Country labourer 6d. about town 10 d. Milk 7 pints a penny. Coals 3 s. 8 d. to 5 s. a barrel, 6 of which make a ton. Eggs 4 a penny.

Corke labourers. Cellar ones 20,000; have 1 s. 1 d. a day, and as much bread, beef and beer, as they can eat and drink, and 7lb. of offals a week for their families. Rent for their houſe, 40 s. Maſon and Carpenters labourers 10d. a day. Sailors, now, 3 l. a month and ſhip proviſions: before the American war, 28s.

Porters and coal-heavers paid by the great. State of the poor people in general incomparably better off than they were 20 years ago. There are imported 18,000 barrels annually of Scotch herrings, at 18 s. a barrel. The ſalt for the beef trade comes from Liſbon, St. Ube's, &c. The ſalt for the fiſh trade from Rochelle; for butter Engliſh and Iriſh.

Particulars of the woollen fabricks of the county of Corke received from a manufacturer. The woollen trade, ſerges and camblets, ratteens, frizes, druggets, and narrow cloths, the laſt they make to 10 s. and 12 s. a yard; if they might export to 8 s. they are very clear that they could get a great trade for the woollen manufactures of Corke; the wool comes from Galway and Roſcommon, combed here by combers, who earn 8s. to 10 s. a week into balls of 24 ounces, which is ſpun into worſteds, of twelve ſkains to the ball, and exported to Yarmouth for Norwich; the export price, 30 l. a pack, to 33l. never before ſo high; average of them 26 l. to 30 l. Some they work up at home into ſerges, ſtuffs, and camblets; the ſerges at 12d. a yard, 34 inches wide; the ſtuffs ſixteen inches, at 18d. the camblets at nine-pence halfpenny to thirteen pence; the ſpinners at nine-pence a ball, one in a week; or a ball and half twelvepence a week, and attend the family beſides; this is done moſt in Waterford and Kerry, particularly near Killarney; the weavers earn 1 s. a day on an average. Full three-fourths of the wool is exported in yarn, and only one-fourth worth worked up. Half the wool of Ireland is combed in the county of Corke.

A very great manufacture of ratteens at Carric-on-ſure, the bay worſted is for ſerges, ſhalloons, &c. Woollen yarn for coarſe cloths, which latter have been loſt for ſome years, owing to the high price of wool. The bay export has declined ſince 1770, which declenſion is owing to the high price of wool.

No wool ſmuggled, not even from Kerry, not a ſloop's cargo in twenty years, the price too high; the declenſion has been conſiderable. For every 86 packs that are exported, a licence from the Lord Lieutenant, for which 20 l. is paid.

From the act of the laſt ſeſſions of Great Britain for exporting woollen goods for the troops in the pay of Ireland, Mr. Abraham Lane, of Corke, eſtabliſhed a new manufacture of army cloathing for that purpoſe, which is the firſt at Corke, and pays 40 l. a week in labour only. Upon the whole there has been no increaſe of woollen manufacture within 20 years. Is clearly of opinion that many fabricks might be worked up here much cheaper than in France, of cloths that the French have beat the Engliſh out of; theſe are, particularly, broad-cloths of one yard and half-yard wide, from 3s. to 6 s. 6 d. a yard for the Levant trade. Frizes which is now ſupplied from Carcaſſone in Lánguedoc. Frizes of 24 to 27 inches, at 10d. to 13d. a yard. Flannels, 27 to 36, from 7d. to 14d. Serges of 27 to 36 inches, at 7d. to 12d. a yard; theſe would work up the coarſe wool. At Ballynaſloe fair, in July, 200,000l. a year bought in wool. There is a manufactory of knit-ſtocking by the common women about Corke, for eight or ten miles around; the yarn from 12d. to 18d. a pair, and the worſted, from 16d. to 20d. and earn from 12 d. to 18d. a week. Beſides their own conſumption, great quantities are ſent to the north of Ireland.

All the weavers in the country are confined to towns, have no land, but ſmall gardens. Bandle or narrow linen, for home conſumption, is made in the weſtern part of the county. Generally ſpeaking, the circumſtances of all the manufacturing poor are better than they were twenty years ago. The manufactures have not declined, though the exportation has, owing to the increaſed home conſumptions. Bandon was once the ſeat of the ſtuff, camblet, and ſhag manufacture, but has in ſeven years declined above three-fourths. Have changed it for the manufacture of coarſe green linens, for the London market, from 6d. to 9d. a yard, 27 inches wide; but the number of manufacturers in general much leſſened.

September 22d, left Corke, and proceeded to Coolmore, the ſeat of the Rev. Archdeacon Oliver, who is the capital farmer of all this neighbourhood; no perſon could be more deſirous of procuring me the information I wiſhed, nor any more able to give it me. Mr. Oliver began the culture of turnips four years ago, and found them ſo profitable that he has every year had a field of them in the broad-caſt method, and well hoed. This year they are exceedingly fine, clean, and well hoed, ſo that they would be no diſgrace to a Norfolk farmer. This is the great object wanting in Iriſh tillage; a gentleman, therefore, who makes ſo conſiderable a progreſs in it, acts in a manner the moſt deſerving praiſe that the whole circle of his huſbandry will admit. Mr. Oliver has uſually drawn his crops for ſheep and black cattle; for the former he has ſpread them upon graſs fields to their very great improvement; and the cattle have had them given in ſtalls. All ſorts have done perfectly well on them, inſomuch that he is fully convinced of their great importance: he has found that they ſupport the cattle much better than any thing elſe, to ſuch a degree of ſuperiority, he is determined never to be without a crop. He has always dunged for them, except when he has ploughed up a graſs lay, and then he has found it not neceſſary.

In bringing in furzy waſte land he has improved very extenſively. One inſtance in particular I ſhall mention, becauſe it is the beſt preparation for laying land to graſs that I have met with in Ireland: he firſt dug it and put in potatoes, no manure, the crop middling; and after that cleared it of ſtones, which were in great numbers, and ſowed turnips, of which crop the following are the particulars.

"In November 1771, the Rev. Archdeacon John Oliver (at his reſidence in the county of Corke) began to cultivate a field for turnips and cabbages; the field contained about 40 Engliſh acres, but was ſo full of rocks that only about ten or eleven plantation acres could be tilled, the remainder being a lime-ſtone quarry; the ſurface in the part tilled, in general, not above four inches deep, and in the deepeſt part not above twelve inches over the lime-ſtone quarry; this ground was planted with potatoes the ſpring preceding, without any manure, and all done with the ſpade, and in many parts there was not ſufficient covering for them. The ploughing for turnips and cabbages was finiſhed the latter end of December; it remained in that ſtate till the month of March following (1772,) when a large quantity of ſtones were taken out with crows and ſpades; it was then ploughed a ſecond time, then harrowed with very ſtrong harrows made on purpoſe; about the latter end of May it was rolled with a wooden roller; on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of June, it was ſowed with about one pound and a quarter of ſeeds to the Engliſh acre. When the turnips were in four leaves there appeared more fern and potatoes than turnips, which were weeded out by hand, at a great expenſe; and in about three weeks after, when the turnips began to bottom, they got a ſecond weeding as before, after which they were again thinned by hand; theſe different operations were continued till the turnips were about a pound weight, and then they were thinned again, and weeded as often as there was occaſion, and now it is imagined they are as great a crop as any in the kingdom, ſome thouſands weighing fourteen pounds per turnip. Part of the ſame field is ſowed in drills, thinned and weeded as the other, but they are not equal to the broad caſt, but are a very good crop. Another part of the ſame field is planted with 20,300 cabbages of different kinds, namely, the flat Dutch, borecole, large late Dutch cabbage, turnip-cabbage, and large Scotch cabbage, at three feet between each drill, and two feet in the rows, which is at leaſt one foot too near in the drills, and half a foot in the rows, as they now touch one another this 13th of October. All the ſaid cabbages and turnips were cultivated with the plough, and the cabbages hoed with the garden hoes, and manured moſtly with rotten dung; part with horſe-dung, not half rotten, from the ſtable; part with cow-dung, not rotten; part with ſea-ſlob and lime mixed; all which manures anſwer very well. One ſmall part of the field where the cabbages were planted, was broke from the lay laſt March, got ſix ploughings and five harrowings; another part four ploughings and three harrowings.

The quantity of ground under turnips is	8 a. 1 r. 10 p.
Under cabbages	2 a. 1 r. 10 p.

The turnip ground got no manure of any kind, nor was it burned.

The foregoing improvements were conducted under the immediate care and management of

MAURICE MURRAY."

After theſe turnips he ſowed barley, and with the barley, graſs ſeeds; before this improvement the land was worth 10s. an acre, but after it would let for 25s. the graſs having ſucceeded perfectly. Cabbages Mr. Oliver has alſo cultivated theſe four years, and with ſucceſs, but does not find, upon the whole, they ſucceed ſo well as turnips, except Reynolds' turnip-rooted cabbage, which is of very great uſe late in the ſpring, after other ſorts are gone. Beans Mr. Oliver has alſo tried in ſmall quantities, and ſeem to do pretty well; I ſaw his crop this year drilled and well managed, and a good produce, enough to give him the expectation of their being an advantageous article. Lucerne he has alſo tried, but found the trouble of keeping it clean too great to anſwer the cultivation.

tivation. Upon manures he has tried an experiment, which promiſes to be of conſiderable conſequence; upon ſome land he took in from a creek of Corke harbour, under the ſlob or ſea ooze he dug ſome very fine blue marle; this he tried for potatoes againſt dung; the crops to appearance very equal, but upon meaſuring a *ſpade* of each, the part marled yielded 14lb. but that dunged only 7½lb. but the dunging was not a conſiderable one. It is an object of prodigious conſequence to be able to get potatoes at all with marle. In the cultivation of this root Mr. Oliver has introduced the mode of planting them in drills, two feet and a half aſunder, with the plough, and found that the ſaving of labour is exceedingly great, but that the difference of crop is rather in favour of the common method: an acre which yielded 1005 weights, the drilled 822, but ſaving in the ſeed of the drilled 60 weights, each weight 21lb.

Mr. Oliver has juſt taken a farm of 400 acres of land, waſte or exhauſted by the preceding tenant by inceſſant crops of corn; this land was rented as 1s. 6d. an acre, but Mr. Oliver has tried it at 15s. and is at preſent engaged in making very great improvements on it; draining the wet parts, grubbing furze, fallowing, liming, incloſing, and building offices, doing the whole in the moſt perfect manner, and will ſoon make the farm carry an appearance very different from what it ever did before. His fallows for wheat had been well and often ploughed, and of a countenance very different from any lands in the neighbourhood.

A year after the date of this journey, having the pleaſure of being again with this excellent improver, I had a farther opportunity of becoming better acquainted with his management. I had alſo gone over an improvement of his at Duntreleague, near Mitchelſtown, where he advanced 300 acres of mountain from 50l. or 60l. a year to 300l. a year, having hired it on a leaſe for ever; he divided the whole in fields of a proper ſize by well-made ditches, doubly planted with quick and rows of trees; the lands were improved with lime, laid down to graſs, and let to tenants who pay their rents well; but Mr. Oliver reſiding at a diſtance, the trees were very much damaged and hurt by the tenants cattle. To all appearance this improvement was as completely finiſhed as any in Ireland, and the great profit ariſing from the undertaking induced the archdeacon to attempt his new one I mentioned above. In that I found a very great progreſs made: beſides an excellent barn of ſtone and ſlate, there was a ſteward's houſe, ſtables, &c. and a good farm-yard, walled in; and it was with particular pleaſure I ſaw (it was in winter) a large number of cows and young cattle very well littered in it with ſtraw, and feeding on turnips a thick layer of ſea-ſand having been ſpread all over it. The improvement and cultivation of the farm went on apace, eſpecially the liming; the kiln had been burning a twelvemonth, in which time the expenſe had been as follows:

364 barrels of culm, at 4s. - -	73	0	0
The quarry is 1 ¼ mile Engliſh from the kiln; two horſes and two men drawing ſtone, at 18s. a week - - - -	46	16	0
Two men quarrying, 5s. a week to one, and 3s. a week to the other - -	20	16	0
Breaking and burning, 8s. a week - -	20	16	0
Gunpowder, 1s. a month - - -	0	12	0
24 waggon-load of coal cinders, bought at Corke, at 10s. - - - -	12	0	0
One horſe and man carries out 24 barrels a day, at 1s. 6d. 242 days - - -	18	1	0
Total £.	192	1	0

The quantity of lime drawn from February 1777 to Feb. 1778 was 5824 barrels, the expenſe therefore juſt 8d. a barrel. One Corke barrel of culm, at 4s. uſed every day, and half a barrel of aſhes: the kiln draws 18 barrels a day, 16 for 1 of culm, and 10 for 1 including cinders. This barrel of culm is 6 buſhels heaped. Mr. Oliver had an old memorandum, that the price of fuel was three-pence farthing per barrel of lime. Twelve tons of lime-ſtone produces 50 barrels of roach lime. Nor does the archdeacon truſt to lime alone; he buys great quantities of dung and ſoap aſhes in Corke. At the ſame time I viewed his turnip crops on his home farm, and found them excellent, and many oxen tied in ſtalls fattening on them, a practice he finds exceedingly profitable; when other graziers ſell their bullocks with difficulty, he puts his to turnips, and doubles and trebles their value. In 1777 he had 23 acres of turnips. Before I conclude this account of his ſpirited exertions, I muſt add, that if a very few improvers in Ireland have gone through more extenſive operations, I have not found one more attentive or more practical, and, upon the whole, ſcarcely any that come near to him.

Land about Coolmore lets from 8s. to 20s. The ſoil lime-ſtone. Farms riſe from 50l. to 300l. The courſes are,

1. Potatoes, yield 50 barrels. 2. Wheat, 3 barrels: add ſometimes, 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for graſs.

The poor people have moſt of them land with their cabbins, from four to ſix acres, which they ſow with potatoes and wheat. Not many of them keep cows, but a few ſorry ſheep for milk; they generally have milk, either of their own, or bought, in ſummer, and in winter they have herrings; but live, upon the whole, worſe than in many other parts of the kingdom. The price of labour 6d. a day the year round; in harveſt 8d. Rent of a cabbin 20s. Many dairies here, which are generally ſet at four pound a cow, ſome four guineas, and near Corke, five pounds.

The manures are lime, at 1s. 4d. a barrel roach; if burnt by themſelves, 8d. to 10d. lay thirty to fifty barrels. Sea ſand is uſed, ſixty to eighty bags, each five pecks, to the acre. Corke dung coſts 6d. to 1s. a car load; it is all bought up very carefully; 10l. a year is paid for the cleaning of one ſtreet; this argues a very ſpirited huſbandry.

Rode to the mouth of Corke harbour; the grounds about it are all fine, bold, and varied, but ſo bare of trees, that there is not a ſingle view but what pains one in the want of wood. Rents of the tract ſouth of the river Caragoline, from 5s. to 30s. average, 10s. Not one man in five has a cow, but generally from one to four acres, upon which they have potatoes, and five or ſix ſheep, which they milk, and ſpin their wool. Labour 5d. in winter, 6d. in ſummer; many of them for three months in the year live on potatoes and water, the reſt of it they have a good deal of fiſh. But it is remarked, at Kinſale, that when ſprats are moſt plentiful, diſeaſes are moſt common. Rent for a mere cabbin, 10s. Much paring and burning; paring twenty-eight men a day, ſow wheat on it and then potatoes; get great crops. The ſoil a ſharp ſtoney land; no lime-ſtone ſouth of the above river. Manure for potatoes, with ſea weed for 26s. which gives good crops, but laſts only one year. Sea ſand much uſed, no ſhells in it. Farms riſe to two or three hundred acres, but are hired in partnerſhip.

Before I quit the environs of Corke, I muſt remark, that the country on the harbour, I think preferable, in many reſpects for a reſidence, to any thing I have ſeen in Ireland. *Firſt*, It is the moſt ſoutherly part of the kingdom. *Second*, there are very great beauties of proſpect. *Third*, by much the moſt animated, buſy ſcene of ſhipping in all Ireland, and conſequently, *Fourth*, a ready price for every product. *Fifth*, great plenty of excellent fiſh and wild fowl. *Sixth*, the neighbourhood of a great city for objects of convenience.

September 24th, took my leave of Mr. Oliver; I purpoſed going from hence to Bandon, in the way to Carbury, and ſo to Killarney, by Bantry and Nedeen, and with this view had got letters of recommendation to ſeveral gentlemen in that country; but hearing that the Prieſts Leap between Bantry and Nedeen was utterly impaſſable, the road not being finiſhed, which is making by ſubſcription. I changed my route, and took the Macroon road. Dined with Colonel Ayres, who informed me that the agriculture of that neighbourhood was very indifferent, and little worth noting, except the uſe of lime as a manure, which is practiſed with great ſucceſs. From his houſe I took the Nedeen road.

Paſſed Brockham, the place where Cornelius Townſhend, Eſq; eight years ago fixed two Suſſex farmers, to improve a ſtoney mountain. I ſaw the land, and ſome of the buildings, and having heard ſeveral accounts of the tranſaction from friends to the farmers, which accounts had been received from them; I wiſhed to have Mr. Townſhend's, and with that view called at his houſe, but unfortunately he was not at home; as I miſſed him, I ſhall only mention the affair in the light it appeared to me from the particulars I received from different hands.

Mr. Townſhend wiſhing to improve his eſtate, a conſiderable part of which conſiſted of mountain, but ſurprizingly full of rocks and ſtones; he engaged two Suſſex farmers, (Meſſrs. Crampe, and Johnſon) to come over to Ireland, to view the lands in queſtion: they both came over, examined the land, and hired a tract for ſome time at no rent, or a very ſmall one, and after that at a rent named and agreed to. The men returned, ſettled their affairs in England, bought very fine horſes, and embarked all their ſtock, implements, &c. and came over, under circumſtances of great, but uſeleſs expence. When they got to the land, houſes and offices were built for them, in a moſt complete ſtile, and among others, a barn 100 feet long, and 37 broad; an exceedingly ill-judged expence, the reſult of bringing merely Engliſh (perhaps miſtaken in ideas) into the climate of Ireland.

Theſe buildings being executing at the landlord's expence, but the tenants drawing the materials, they began the improvement; and found the land ſo exceſſively ſtoney, that the expence of clearing was too great to be within a poſſibility of anſwering. One field of eight acres coſt 100l. in clearing: walls were built 10 feet thick, with ſtones that aroſe in clearing the land. The undertaking went on for 4 years, but was then concluded in the way one might have expected. The men were ruined, and Mr. Townſhend ſuffered conſiderably by the expences of the undertaking, riſing infinitely beyond what he had ever thought they could amount to.

Had Mr. Townſhend met with farmers of ſufficient knowledge in their profeſſion, they would not probably have fixed on this ſpot at all; certainly when they found to what exceſs it abounded with ſtones, they would have perſuaded him either to give them other land, or have hired a more favourable ſoil of ſome other landlord: at all events to perſiſt in improving a ſpot, the improvement of which could never be repaid, whether it was upon their own, or their landlord's account, was equally inexcuſable in point of prudence, and the ſure way to bring diſcredit on the undertaking, and ridicule on what falſely acquired the name of *Engliſh huſbandry.* Planting is the only proper improvement for land abounding to ſuch exceſs with rocks.

From hence I reached Sir John Coulthurſt's at Knightſbridge, who has a very extenſive eſtate here, 7000 acres of which are mountain and bog. I was unfortunate in not having ſeen Sir John's ſeat, near Corke, for there he is at work upon 1000 acres of mountain, and making very great improvements, in which, among other circumſtances, he works his bullocks by the horns.

September 25th, took the road to Nedeen, through the wildeſt region of mountains that I remember to have ſeen; it is a dreary, but an intereſting road. The various horrid, groteſque and unuſual forms in which the mountains riſe, and the rocks bulge; the immenſe height of ſome diſtant heads, which rear above all the nearer ſcenes, the torrents roaring in the vales, and breaking down the mountain ſides, with here and there a wretched cabbin, and a ſpot of culture yielding ſurpriſe to find human beings the inhabitants of ſuch a ſcene of wildneſs, altogether keep the traveller's mind in an agitation and ſuſpence. Theſe rocks and mountains are many of them no otherwiſe improvable than by planting, for which, however, they are exceedingly well adapted.

Sir John was ſo obliging as to ſend half a dozen labourers with me, to help my chaiſe up a mountain ſide, of which he gave a formidable account: in truth it deſerved it. The road leads directly againſt a mountain ridge, and thoſe who made it were ſo incredibly ſtupid, that they kept the ſtrait line up the hill, inſtead of turning aſide to the right, to wind around a projection of it. The path of the road is worn by torrents into a channel, which is blocked up in places by huge fragments, ſo that it would be a horrid road on a level; but on a hill ſo ſteep, that the beſt path would be difficult to aſcend, it may be ſuppoſed terrible: the labourers, two paſſing ſtrangers, and my ſervant, could with difficulty get the chaiſe up. It is much to be regretted that the direction of the road is not changed, as all the reſt from Corke to Nedeen is good enough. For a few miles towards the latter place the country is flat on the river Kenmare, much of it good, and under graſs or corn. Paſſed Mr. Orpine's at Ardtilly, and another of the ſame name at Killowen.

Nedeen is a little town, very well ſituated, on the noble river Kenmare, where ſhips of 150 tons may come up: there are but three or four good houſes. Lord Shelburne, to whom the place belongs, has built one for his agent. There is a vale of good land, which is here from a mile and a half to a mile broad; and to the north and ſouth, great ridges of mountains ſaid to be full of mines.

At Nedeen, Lord Shelburne had taken care to have me well informed by his people in that country, which belongs for the greateſt part to himſelf, he has above 150,000 Iriſh acres in Kerry; the greateſt part of the barony of Glanrought belongs to him, moſt of Dunkerron and Iveragh. The country is all a region of mountains, incloſed by a vale of flat land on the river;

ver; the mountains to the ſouth come to the water's edge, with but few variations, the principal of which is Ardee, a farm of Lord Shelburne's: to the north of the river, the flat land is one-half to three quarters of a mile broad. The mountains to the ſouth reach to Bear-haven, and thoſe to the north to Dingle-bay; the ſoil is extremely various; to the ſouth of the river all are ſand ſtones, and the hills loam, ſtone, gravel, and bog. To the north there is a ſlip of lime-ſtone land, from Kilgarvon to Cabbina-cuſh, that is ſix miles eaſt of Nedeen, and three to the weſt, but is not more than a quarter of a mile broad, the reſt including the mountains all ſand ſtone. As to its rents, it is very difficult to tell what they are; for land is let by the plough land and gineve, 12 gineves to the plough land; but the latter denomination is not of any particular quantity: for no 2 plough lands are the ſame. The ſize of farms is various, from 40 acres to 1000, leſs quantities go with cabbins, and ſome farms are taken by labourers in partnerſhip. Their tillage conſiſts of potatoes meaſured by the peck of 84lb. manure for them with ſea weed, three boat loads to an acre, each at 16s. 3d. the poor people uſe nothing elſe: but thoſe who can afford it, lay dung with it. Theſe potatoes are the firſt crop. Thirty pecks plant an acre, and it takes from twenty to thirty men to ſet an acre in a day.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats, or barley, good crops. 4. Lay it out for what comes, and in the firſt ſeaſon the fineſt graſſes appear.

Some wheat is ſown, but not generally by the poor people. Oats are the common crop. This is the ſhort hiſtory of their arable management. There are ſome dairies; from 12 to 24 cows in each, and are ſet at 50s. or one cwt. of butter and 12s. horn money, the dairymen's privilege is two collops to 20 cows; a cabbin, and three acres of land. The butter is all carried to Corke on horſes backs. Three years ago 40 s. a cow was the higheſt. The common ſtock of the mountains are young cattle, bred by the poor people; but the large farmers go generally to Limerick for yearlings, turn them on the mountains, where they are kept till three years old, when they ſell them at Nedeen or Killarney, engaging them to be with calf. Buy at 40 s. this year, but uſed to be from 20 s. to 30 s. formerly ſold at 50s. now at 3l. The poor people's heifers ſell at three years old, at 30s. their breed is the little mountain, or Kerry cow, which upon good land gives a great deal of milk. I have remarked, as I travelled through the country, much of the Alderney breed in ſome of them. The winter food, which the farmers provide, is to keep bottom lands through the ſummer, which they call a nurſery, to which they bring their cattle down from the mountains when the weather becomes ſevere. There are great numbers of ſwine, and many reared on the mountains by the Tormentile root, which abounds there, and from which they will come down good pork. There are few ſheep kept, not ſufficient to cloath the poor people, who, however, work up what there is into frize. Lambs ſell from 2s. 2d. to 3s. at four months old. Three year old wethers, fat, from 5s. to 8s. weight about 9lb. a quarter, and are admirable mutton. A ewe's fleece, one pound and a half to two pound and a half. A lamb's, one pound. A three year old wether, two pound and a half. They have ſome cows, which are fattened in the vales; and alſo ſome on the mountains, weighing 2 cwt. and two and a quarter. Many goats are kept on the mountains, eſpecially by the poor people, to whom they are a very great ſupport; for upon the mountains the milk of a goat is equal to that of a cow; and ſome of the kids are killed for meat.

Upon aſking whether they ploughed with horſes or oxen, I was told there was not a plough in the whole pariſh of Tooaviſta, which is 12 miles long by 7 broad. All the tillage is by the Iriſh loy; ten men dig an acre a day that has been ſtirred before. It will take forty men to put in an acre of potatoes in a day. Rents have fallen greatly in moſt parts of Kerry. Tythes in 1770 and in 1771 were taken in kind, owing to their having been puſhed up to too great a height; ſince 1771 they have been lowered; the proctor every year values the tythe of the whole farm. Leaſes are, ſome for ever, others 31 years, and ſome 21. The rent of a cabbin, without land, 6s. with an acre of land, 1l. 2s. 9d. The graſs for a cow is 40s. on the mountains from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. a quarter. They have generally about five acres. They all keep a cow or two. All on the mountains have goats. Swine alſo are univerſal among them. The labour of the farms are generally carried on by cottars, to whom the farmer aſſigns a cabbin, and a garden, and the running of two collops on the mountain, for which he pays a rent; he is bound to work with his maſter for 3d. a day and two meals. Their food in ſummer potatoes and milk; but in ſpring they have only potatoes and water. Sometimes they have herrings and ſprats. They never eat ſalmon. The religion is in general Roman catholic.

Lime, 1s. a barrel, but may be burnt for 8d. Fuel, all turf, 13d. a ſlane, each ſlane four feet long, by two feet broad. Price of building a cabbin, with ſtone and ſlate in lime mortar 20l.

There has been a conſiderable fiſhery upon the coaſt of Kerry, particularly in the Kenmare, at Ballenſkillings in Iveragh, in the river Valentia, in Bear Haven, in Caſtlemain bay, in Dingle bay, &c. Laſt year, that in the Kenmare river was the moſt conſiderable: it employed twelve boats. This year none at all; the chief in Ballenſkerrings and river

Valentia. None in Kenmare for ſeveral years before : but great abundance of ſprats for three years. Salmon is conſtant; they export about five tons, ſalted. The herrings chiefly for home conſumption, ſalted and freſh. The herring boats are of two tons, 14 foot keel, coſt building 3l. 3s. five men go in each: they are built here of bog deal. A ſtring of three nets coſt 3l. the poor go ſhares in the fiſhery; build or hire the boat, and join for the nets, which are made of hemp, bought at Corke, and ſpun and made here : they tan them with bark. There are many more men would go out if they had boats, but it is a very uncertain fiſhery. Many perſons have put themſelves to conſiderable expence about it, but without ſucceſs, except thirty-three years ago, when the pilchards came in, and have never been here ſince.

Killarney is the principal market for wheat, which is twelve miles diſtant. A ſloop conſtantly employed upon the river Kenmare, in bringing ſalt and carrying lime-ſtone, or whatever was wanted, would be a great improvement.

Lord Shelburne has a plan for improving Nedeen, to which he has given the name of Kenmare, from his friend the nobleman, with that title, which, when executed, muſt be of conſiderable importance. It is to build ten cabbins, and annex ten acres to each cabbin, rent free for twenty-one years; alſo to form twenty-acred allotments for the parks to the town of Nedeen, with deſign to encourage ſettlements in it, for which 330 acres are kept in hand. The ſituation is advantageous, and ſhips of 100 tons can come up to it, with a very good landing-place. He has alſo fixed ſome Engliſh farmers.

Relative to the improvement of the wild regions within ſight of the houſe I was in, I aſked, *Suppoſe five acres of thoſe mountains to be cleared of ſtones, a ſtone cabbin built, at 7l. expence, and a wall raiſed round the whole, and to be let at a reaſonable rent, would a tenant be found?* "*That moment.*" *Suppoſe ſix of them, or twelve?* "*You would have tenants for all, if there were an hundred.*"

In the pariſh of Tooaviſter, they have a way of taking land by the *ounce*, in the arable part, which joins the ſea. An ounce is the ſixteenth of a gineve, and is ſufficient for a potatoe garden, and they pay a guinea for it.

The climate in theſe parts of Kerry is ſo mild, that potatoes are left by the poor people in the ground the whole winter through; but laſt winter almoſt ruined them, their crop being deſtroyed.

September 26th, left Nedeen, and riſing the mountainous region, towards Killarney, came to a tract of mountain-bog, one of the moſt improvable I have any where ſeen. It hangs to the ſouth, and might be drained with the utmoſt eaſe. It yields a coarſe graſs, and has nothing in it to ſtop a plough. Lord Shelburne's agent, Mr. Wray, told me, that there are vaſt tracts of ſuch in the barony of Iveragh. There is common gravel on the ſpot, and limeſtone in plenty, within half a mile of Nedeen.

Soon entered the wildeſt and moſt romantic country I had any where ſeen; a region of ſteep rocks and mountains, which continued for nine or ten miles, till I came in view of Mucruſs. There is ſomething magnificently wild in this ſtupendous ſcenery, formed to impreſs the mind with a certain ſpecies of terror. All this tract has a rude and ſavage air, but parts of it are ſtrikingly intereſting; the mountains are bare and rocky, and of a great magnitude; the vales are rocky glens, where a mountain-ſtream tumbles along the rougheſt bed imaginable, and receives many torrents, pouring from clefts, half overhung with ſhrubby wood; ſome of theſe ſtreams are ſeen, and the roar of others heard, but hid by vaſt maſſes of rock. Immenſe fragments, torn from the precipices by ſtorms and torrents, are tumbled about in the wildeſt confuſion, and ſeem to hang rather than reſt upon projecting precipices. Upon ſome of theſe fragments of rock, perfectly detached from the ſoil, except by the ſide on which they lie, are beds of black turf, with luxuriant crops of heath, &c. which appeared very curious to me, having no where ſeen the like; and I obſerved very high in the mountains, much higher than any cultivation is at preſent, on the right hand, flat and cleared ſpaces of good graſs among the ridges of rock, which had probably been cultivated, and proved that theſe mountains were not incapable from climate of being applied to uſeful purpoſes.

From one of theſe heights, I looked forward to the lake of Killarney at a conſiderable diſtance, and backward to the river Kenmare; came in view of a ſmall part of the upper lake, ſpotted with ſeveral iſlands, and ſurrounded by the moſt tremendous mountains that can be imagined of an aſpect ſavage and dreadful. From this ſcene of wild magnificence, I broke at once upon all the glories of Killarney; from an elevated point of view I looked down on a conſiderable part of the lake, which gave me a ſpecimen of what I might expect. The water you command (which, however, is only a part of the lake) appears a baſon of two or three miles round; to the left it is incloſed by the mountains you have paſſed particularly by the Turk, whoſe outline is uncommonly noble, and joins a range of others, that form the moſt magnificent ſhore in the world: on the other ſide is a riſing ſcenery of cultivated hills, and Lord Kenmare's park and woods; the end of the lake at your feet is formed by the root of Mangerton, on whoſe ſide the road leads. From hence I looked down on a pretty range of incloſures on the lake, and the woods and lawns of Mucruſs, forming a large promontory of thick wood, ſhooting far into the lake. The moſt active fancy can ſketch nothing in addition. Iſlands of wood beyond ſeem to join it, and reaches of the lake, breaking partly between, give the moſt lively intermixture of water: ſix or ſeven iſles and iſlets form an accompanyment, ſome are rocky, but with a ſlight vegetation, others contain groups of trees, and the whole thrown into forms, which would furniſh new ideas to a painter. Farther is a chain of wooded iſlands, which alſo appear to join the main land, with an offspring of leſſer ones ſcattered around.

Arrived at Mr. Herbert's at Mucruſs, to whoſe friendly attention I owed my ſucceeding pleaſure. There have been ſo many deſcriptions of Killarney written by gentlemen who have reſided ſome time there, and ſeen it at every ſeaſon, that for a paſſing traveller to attempt the like, would be in vain; for this reaſon I ſhall give the mere journal of the remarks I made on the ſpot, in the order I viewed the lake.

September 27th, walked into Mr. Herbert's beautiful grounds, to Oroch's hill, in the lawn that he has cleared from that profuſion of ſtones which lie under the wall; the ſcene which this point commands is truly delicious; the houſe is on the edge of the lawn, by a wood which covers the whole peninſula, fringes the ſlope at your feet, and forms a beautiful ſhore to the lake. Tomis and Glena are vaſt mountainous maſſes of incredible magnificence, the outline ſoft and eaſy in its ſwells, whereas thoſe above the eagle's neſt are of ſo broken and abrupt an outline, that nothing can be imagined more ſavage, an aſpect horrid and ſublime, that gives all the impreſſions to be wiſhed to aſtoniſh, rather than pleaſe the mind. The Turk exhibits noble features, and Mangerton's huge body riſes above the whole. The cultivated tracts towards Killarney, form a ſhore in contraſt to the terrific ſcenes I have juſt mentioned; the diſtant boundary of the lake, a vaſt ridge of diſtant blue mountains towards Dingle. From hence entered the garden, and viewed Mucruſs abbey, one of the moſt intereſting ſcenes I ever ſaw; it is the ruin of a conſiderable abbey, built in Henry the VIth's time, and ſo entire, that if it were more ſo, though the building would be more perfect, the *ruin* would be leſs pleaſing; it is half obſcured in the ſhade of ſome venerable aſh trees; ivy has given the picturesque circumſtance, which that plant alone can confer, while the broken walls and ruined turrets throw over it

The laſt mournful graces of decay,

heaps of ſculls and bones ſcattered about, with nettles, briars and weeds ſprouting in tufts from the looſe ſtones, all unite to raiſe thoſe melancholy impreſſions, which are the merit of ſuch ſcenes, and which can ſcarcely any where be felt more completely. The cloiſters form a diſmal area, in the center of which grows the moſt prodigious yew tree I ever beheld, in one great ſtem, two feet diameter, and fourteen feet high, from whence a vaſt head of branches ſpreads on every ſide, ſo as to form a perfect canopy to the whole ſpace; I looked for its fit inhabitant—it is a ſpot where

The moping owl doth to the moon complain.

This ruin is in the true ſtile in which all ſuch buildings ſhould appear; there is not an intruding circumſtance—the hand of dreſs has not touched it—melancholy is the impreſſion which ſuch ſcenes ſhould kindle, and it is here raiſed moſt powerfully.

From the abbey we paſſed to the terraſs, a natural one of graſs, on the very ſhore of the lake; it is irregular and winding; a wall of rocks broken into fantaſtic forms by the waves: on the other ſide, a wood, conſiſting of all ſorts of plants, which the climate can protect, and through which a variety of walks are traced. The view from this terraſs conſiſts of many parts of various characters, but in their different ſtiles complete; the lake opens a ſpreading ſheet of water, ſpotted by rocks and iſlands, all but one or two wooded, the outlines of them are ſharp and diſtinct; nothing can be more ſmiling than this ſcene, ſoft and mild, a perfect contraſt of beauty to the ſublimity of the mountains which form the ſhore: theſe riſe in an outline, ſo varied, and at the ſame time ſo magnificent, that nothing greater can be imagined; Tomys and Glena exhibit an immenſity in point of magnitude, but from a large hanging wood on the ſlope, and from the ſmoothneſs of the general ſurface, it has nothing ſavage, whereas the mountains above and near the Eagle's-neſt are of the moſt broken outlines; the declivities are bulging rocks, of immenſe ſize, which ſeem to impend in horrid forms over the lake, and where an opening among them is caught, others of the ſame rude character, rear their threatening heads. From different parts of the terraſs theſe ſcenes are viewed in numberleſs varieties.

Returned to breakfaſt, and purſued Mr. Herbert's new road, which he has traced thro' the peninſula to Dynis iſland, three miles in length; and it is carried in ſo judicious a manner through a great variety of ground, rocky woods, lawns, &c. that nothing can be more pleaſing; it paſſes through a remarkable ſcene of rocks, which are covered with woods; from thence to the marble quarry, which Mr. Herbert is working; and where he gains variety of marbles, green, red, white, and brown, prettily veined; the quarry is a ſhore of rocks, which ſurround a bay of the lake, and forms a ſcene, conſiſting of but few parts, but thoſe ſtrongly marked; the rocks are bold, and broken into ſlight caverns; they are fringed with ſcattered trees, and from many parts of them wood ſhoots in that romantic manner, ſo common at Killarney. Full in front Turk mountain riſes with the proudeſt outline, in that abrupt magnificence which fills up the whole ſpace before one, and cloſes the ſcene.

The road leads by a place where copper-mines were worked; many ſhafts appear; as much ore was raiſed as ſold for twenty-five thouſand pounds, but the works were laid aſide, more from ignorance in the workmen, than any defects in the mine.

Came to an opening on the Great Lake, which appears to advantage here, the town of Killarney on the north-eaſt ſhore. Look full on the mountain Glená, which riſes in a very bold manner, the hanging woods ſpread half way, and are of great extent, and uncommonly beautiful. Two very pleaſing ſcenes ſucceed, that to the left is a ſmall bay, hemmed in by a neck of land in front; the immediate ſhore rocks, which are in a picturesque ſtile, and crowned entirely with arbutus, and other wood, a pretty retired ſcene, where a variety of objects give no fatigue to the eye. The other is an admirable mixture of the beautiful and ſublime: a bare rock, of an almoſt regular figure, projects from a headland into the lake, which with much wood and high land, forms one ſide of the ſcene, the other is wood from a riſing ground only; the lake open between, in a ſheet of no great extent, but in front is the hanging wood of Glenà, which appears in full glory.

Mr. Herbert has built a handſome Gothic bridge, to unite the peninſula to the iſland of Brickeen, through the arch of which the waters of the north and ſouth lake flow. It is a ſpan of twenty-ſeven feet, and ſeventeen high, and over it the road leads to that iſland. From thence to Brickeen nearly finiſhed, and it is to be thrown acroſs a bottom into Dyniſs.

Returned by the northern path through a thick wood for ſome diſtance, and caught a very agreeable view of Aſh Iſland, ſeen through an opening, incloſed on both ſides with wood. Purſued the way from theſe grounds to Keelbeg, and viewed the bay of the Devil's Iſland, which is a beautiful one, incloſed by a ſhore, to the right of very noble rocks, in ledges and other forms, crowned in a ſtriking manner with wood; a little rocky iſlet riſes in front; to the left the water opens, and Turk mountain riſes with that proud ſuperiority which attends him in all theſe ſcenes.

The view of the promontory of Dindog, near this place, cloſes this part of the lake, and is indeed ſingularly beautiful. It is a large rock, which ſhoots far into the water, of a height ſufficient to be intereſting, in full relief, fringed with a ſcanty vegetation; the ſhore on which you ſtand bending to the right, as if to meet that rock, preſents a circular ſhade of dark wood: Turk ſtill the back ground, in a character of great ſublimity, and Mangerton's loftier ſummit, but leſs intereſting outline, a part of the ſcenery. Theſe views, with others of leſs moment, are connected by a ſucceſſion of lawns breaking among the wood, pleaſing the eye with lively verdure, and relieving it from the fatigue of the ſtupendous mountain ſcenes.

September 28th, took boat on the lake, from the promontory of Dindog before mentioned. I had been under a million of apprehenſions that I ſhould ſee no more of Killarney; for it blew a furious ſtorm all night, and in the morning the boſom of the lake heaved with agitation, exhibiting few marks but thoſe of anger. After breakfaſt, it cleared up, the clouds diſperſed by degrees, the waves ſubſided, the ſun ſhone out in all its ſplendor; every ſcene was gay, and no ideas but pleaſure poſſeſſed the breaſt. With theſe emotions ſallied forth, nor did they diſappoint us.

Rowed under the rocky ſhore of Dindog, which is romantic to a great degree. The baſe, by the beating of the waves, is worn into caverns, ſo that the heads of the rocks project conſiderably beyond the baſe, and hang over in a manner which makes every part of it intereſting. Following the coaſt, open marble quarry bay, the ſhore great fragments of rock tumbled about in the wildeſt manner.

The iſland of rocks againſt the copper-mine ſhore, a remarkable group. The ſhore near Caſemilan is of a different nature; it is wood in ſome places, in unbroken maſſes down to the water's edge, in others divided from it by ſmaller tracts of rock. Come to a beautiful land-locked bay, ſurrounded by a woody ſhore, which opening in places, ſhews other woods more retired. Tomys is here viewed in a unity of form, which gives it an air of great magnificence. Turk was obſcured by the ſun ſhining immediately above him, and caſting a ſtream of burning light on the water, diſplayed an effect, to deſcribe which the pencil of a Claude alone would be equal. Turn out of the bay, and gain a full view of the Eagle's Neſt, the mountains above it, and Glená, they form a perfect contraſt, the firſt are rugged, but Glená mild. Here the ſhore is a continued wood.

Paſs the bridge, and croſs to Dyniſs, an iſland Mr. Herbert has improved in the moſt agreeable manner, by cutting walks through it, that command a variety of views. One of theſe paths on the banks of the channel to the upper lake, is ſketched with great taſte; it is on one ſide walled with natural rocks, from the clefts of which ſhoot a thouſand fine arbutus's, that hang in a rich foliage of flowers and ſcarlet berries; a turf bench in a delicious ſpot; the ſcene cloſe and ſequeſtered, juſt enough to give every pleaſing idea annexed to retirement.

Paſſing the bridge, by a rapid ſtream, came preſently to the Eagle's Neſt: having viewed this rock from places where it appears only a part of an object much greater than itſelf, I had conceived an idea that it did not deſerve the applauſe given it, but upon coming near, I was much ſurprized; the approach is wonderfully fine, the river leads directly to its foot, and does not give the turn till immediately under, by which means the view is much more grand than it could otherwiſe be; it is nearly perpendicular, and riſes in ſuch full majeſty, with ſo bold an outline, and ſuch projecting maſſes in its center, that the magnificence of the object is complete. The lower part is covered with wood, and ſcattered trees climb almoſt to the top, which (if trees can be amiſs in Ireland) rather weaken the impreſſion raiſed by this noble rock; this part is a hanging wood, or an object whoſe character is perfect beauty; but the upper ſcene, the broken outline, rugged ſides, and bulging maſſes, are all ſublime, and ſo powerful, that ſublimity is the general impreſſion of the whole, by overpowering the idea of beauty raiſed by the wood. The immenſe height of the mountains of Killarney may be eſtimated by this rock, from any diſtant place that commands it, it appears the loweſt crag of a vaſt chain, and of no account; but on a cloſe approach it is found to command a very different reſpect.

Paſs between the mountains called the Great Range, towards the upper lake. Here Turk, which has ſo long appeared, with a figure perfectly intereſting, is become, from a different poſition, an unmeaning lump. The reſt of the mountains, as you paſs, aſſume a varied appearance, and are of a prodigious magnitude. The ſcenery in this channel is great and wild in all its features; wood is very ſcarce; vaſt rocks ſeem toſſed in confuſion through the narrow vale, which is opened among the mountains for the river to paſs. Its banks are rocks in a hundred forms; the mountain ſides are every where ſcattered with them. There is not a circumſtance but is in uniſon with the wild grandeur of the ſcene.

Coleman's Eye, a narrow paſs, opens a different ſcenery. Came to a region in which the beautiful and the great are mixed without offence. The iſlands are moſt of them thickly wooded; Oak iſle in particular riſes on a pretty baſe, and is a moſt beautiful object: Mac Gilly Cuddy's reeks, with their broken points; Baum, with his perfect cone; the Purple mountain, with his broad and more regular head; and Turk, having aſſumed a new and more intereſting aſpect, unite with the oppoſite hills, part of which have ſome wood left on them, to form a ſcene uncommonly ſtriking. Here you look back on a very peculiar ſpot; it is a parcel of rocks which croſs the lake, and form a gap that opens to diſtant water, the whole backed by Turk, in a ſtile of the higheſt grandeur.

Come to Derry Currily, which is a great ſweep of mountain, covered partly with wood, hanging in a very noble manner, but part cut down, much of it mangled, and the reſt inhabited by coopers, boat-builders, carpenters, and turners, a ſacrilegious tribe, who have turned the Dryades from their ancient habitations. The caſcade here is a fine one, but paſſed quickly from hence to ſcenes unmixed with pain.

Row to the cluſter of the Seven Iſlands, a little archipelago; they riſe very boldly from the water upon rocky baſes, and are crowned in the moſt beautiful manner with wood, among which are a number of arbutus; the channels among them opening to new ſcenes, and the great amphitheatre of rock and mountain that ſurround them, unite to form a noble view.

Into the river, at the very end of the lake, which winds towards Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks in fanciful meanders.

Returned by a courſe ſomewhat different, through the Seven Iſlands, and back to the Eagle's Neſt, viewing the ſcenes already mentioned in new poſitions. At that noble rock fired three cannon for the echo, which indeed is prodigious; the report does not conſiſt of direct reverberations from one rock to another with a pauſe between, but has an exact reſemblance to a peal of thunder rattling behind the rock, as if travelling the whole ſcenery we had viewed and loſt in the immenſity of Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks.

Returning through the bridge, turn to the left round Dyniſs iſland, under the woods of Glená; open on the cultivated country beyond the town of Killarney, and come gradually in ſight of Innisfallen and Roſs Iſland.

Paſs near to the wood of Glená, which here takes the appearance of one immenſe ſweep hanging in the moſt beautiful manner imaginable, on the ſide of a vaſt mountain to a point, ſhooting into the great lake. A more glorious ſcene is not to be imagined. It is one deep maſs of wood, compoſed of the richeſt ſhades perfectly dipping in the water, without rock or ſtrand appearing, not a break in the whole. The eye paſſing upon the ſheet of liquid ſilver ſome diſtance, to meet ſo intire a ſweep of every tint that can compoſe one vaſt maſs of green, hanging to ſuch an extent as to fill not only the eye, but the imagination unites in the whole to form the moſt noble ſcene that is any where to be beheld.

Turn under the North ſhore of Mucruſs; the lake here is one great expanſe of water, bounded by the woods deſcribed, the iſlands of Innisfallen, Roſs, &c. and the peninſula. The ſhore of Mucruſs has a great variety; it is in ſome places rocky, huge maſſes tumbled from their baſe lie beneath, as in a chaos of ruin. Great caverns worn under them in a variety of ſtrange forms: or elſe covered with woods of a variety of ſhades. Meet the point of Ardnagluggen, (in Engliſh where the water daſhes on the rocks) and come under Orneſcope, a rocky headland of a moſt bold projection hanging many yards over its baſe, with an old weather-beaten yew, growing from a little bracket of rock, from which the ſpot is called Orneſcope, or *yew broom*.

Mucruſs gardens preſently open among the woods, and relieve the eye, almoſt fatigued with the immenſe objects upon which it has ſo long gazed; theſe ſofter ſcenes of lawn gently ſwelling among the ſhrubs and trees, finiſhed the ſecond day.

September 29th, rode, after breakfaſt, to Mangerton Caſcade and Drumarourk Hill, from which the view of Mucruſs is uncommonly pleaſing.

Paſs the other hill, the view of which I deſcribed the 27th, and went to Colonel Huſſy's monument, from whence the ſcene is different from the reſt; the fore ground is a gentle hill, interſected by hedges, forming ſeveral ſmall lawns. There are ſome ſcattered trees and houſes, with Mucruſs Abbey, half obſcured by wood, the whole chearful, and backed by Turk. The lake is of a triangular form, Roſs iſland and Innisfallen its limits, the woods of Mucruſs and the iſlands take a new poſition.

Returning, took boat again towards Roſs iſle, and as Mucruſs retires from us, nothing can be more beautiful than the ſpots of lawn in the terrace opening in the wood; above it, the green hills with clumps, and the whole finiſhing in the noble group of wood about the abbey, which here appears a deep ſhade, and ſo fine a finiſhing one, that not a tree ſhould be touched. Rowed to the eaſt point of Roſs, which is well wooded, turn to the ſouth coaſt. Doubling the point, the moſt beautiful ſhore of that iſland appears; it is the well wooded environs of a bay, except a ſmall opening to the caſtle; the woods are in deep ſhades, and riſe on the regular ſlopes of a high range of rocky coaſt. The part in front of Filekilly point riſes in the middle, and ſinks towards each end. The woods of Tomys here appear uncommonly fine. Open Innisfallen, which is compoſed at this diſtance of the moſt various ſhades, within a broken outline, entirely different from the other iſlands, groups of different maſſes riſing in irregular tufts, and joined by lower trees. No pencil could mix a happier aſſemblage. Land near a miſerable room, where travellers dine——Of the iſle of Innisfallen, it is paying no great compliment to ſay, it is the moſt beautiful in the king's dominions, and perhaps in Europe. It contains twenty acres of land, and has every variety that the range of beauty, unmixed with the ſublime, can give. The general feature is that of wood; the ſurface undulates into ſwelling hills, and ſinks into little vales; the ſlopes are in every direction, the declivities die gently away, forming thoſe ſlight inequalities which are the greateſt beauty of dreſſed grounds. The little vallies let in views of the ſurrounding lake between the hills, while the ſwells break the regular outline of the water, and give to the whole an agreeable confuſion. The wood has all the variety into which nature has thrown the ſurface; in ſome parts it is ſo thick as to appear impenetrable, and ſecludes all farther view; in others, it breaks into tufts of tall timber, under which cattle feed. Here they open, as if to offer to the ſpectator the view of the naked lawn; in others cloſe, as if purpoſely to forbid a more prying examination. Trees of large ſize, and commanding figure, form in ſome places natural arches; the ivy mixing with the branches, and hanging acroſs in feſtoons of foliage, while on one ſide the lake glitters among the trees, and on the other a thick gloom dwells in the receſſes of the wood. The figure of the iſland renders one part a beautiful object to another; for the coaſt being broken and indented, forms bays ſurrounded either by rock or wood: ſlight promontories ſhoot into the lake, whoſe rocky edges are crowned with wood. Theſe are the great features of Innisfallen; the ſlighter touches are full of beauties eaſily imagined by the reader. Every circumſtance of the wood, the water, the rocks and lawn are characteriſtic, and have a beauty in the aſſemblage from mere diſpoſition. I muſt, however, obſerve, that this delicious retreat is not kept as one could wiſh.

Scenes, that are great and commanding from magnitude or wildneſs, ſhould never be dreſſed; the *rugged* and even the *horrible*, may add to the effect upon the mind: but in ſuch as Innisfallen, a degree of dreſs, that is cleanlineſs, is even neceſſary to beauty. I have ſpoken of lawn, but I ſhould obſerve, that expreſſion indicates what it ought to be, rather than what it is. It is very rich graſs, poached by oxen and cows, the only inhabitants of the iſland. No ſpectator of taſte but will regret the open grounds not being drained with hollow cuts; the ruggedneſs of the ſurface levelled, and the graſs kept cloſe ſhaven by many ſheep inſtead of beaſts. The buſhes and briars where they have encroached on what ought to be lawn, cleared away; ſome parts of the iſle more opened: in a word, no ornaments given, for the ſcene wants them not, but obſtructions cleared, ruggedneſs ſmoothed, and the whole cleaned. This is what ought to be done; as to what might be made of the iſland, if its noble proprietor (Lord Kenmare) had an inclination, it admits of being converted into a terreſtial paradiſe, lawning with the intermixture of other ſhrubs and wood, and a *little* dreſs, would make it an example of what ornamented grounds might be, but which not one in a thouſand is. Take the iſland, however, as it is, with its few imperfections, and where are we to find ſuch another? What a delicious retreat! An emperor could not beſtow ſuch an one as Innisfallen; with a cottage, a few cows, and a ſwarm of poultry, is it poſſible that happineſs ſhould refuſe to be a gueſt here?

Row to Roſs Caſtle, in order to coaſt that iſland; there is nothing peculiarly ſtriking in it; return the ſame way around Innisfallen; in this little voyage the ſhore of Roſs is one of the moſt beautiful of the wooded ones in the lake; it ſeems to unite with Innisfallen, and projects into the water in thick woods one beyond another. In the middle of the channel a large rock, and from the other ſhore a little promontory of a few ſcattered trees; the whole ſcene pleaſing.

The ſhore of Innisfallen has much variety, but in general it is woody, and of the beautiful character which predominates in that iſland; one bay, at taking leave of it, is exceedingly pretty, it is a ſemicircular one, and in the center there is a projecting knole of wood within a bay; this is uncommon, and has an agreeable effect.

The near approach to Tomys exhibits a ſweep of wood, ſo great in extent, and ſo rich in foliage, that no perſon can ſee without admiring it. The mountainous part above is ſoon excluded by the approach; wood alone is ſeen, and that in ſuch a noble range, as to be greatly ſtriking; it juſt hollows into a bay, and in the center of it is a chaſm in the wood; this is the bed of a conſiderable ſtream, which forms O'Sullivan's caſcade, to which all ſtrangers are conducted, as one of the principal beauties of Killarney. Landed to the right of it, and walked under the thick ſhade of the wood, over a rocky declivity; cloſe to the torrent ſtream, which breaks impetuouſly from rock to rock, with a roar that kindles expectation. The picture in your fancy will not exceed the reality; a great ſtream burſts from the deep boſom of a wooded glen, hollowed into a retired receſs of rocks and trees, itſelf a moſt pleaſing and romantic ſpot, were there not a drop of water; the firſt fall is many feet perpendicularly over a rock, to the eye it immediately makes another, the baſon into which it pours being concealed; from this baſon it forces itſelf impetuouſly between two rocks; this ſecond fall is alſo of a conſiderable height, but the lower one, the third, is the moſt conſiderable, it iſſues in the ſame manner from a baſon hid from the point of view. Theſe baſons being large, there appears a ſpace of ſeveral yards between each fall, which adds much to the picturеſque ſcenery; the whole is within an arch of wood, that hangs over it; the quantity of water is ſo conſiderable as to make an almoſt deafening noiſe, and uniting with the torrent below, where the fragments of rock are large and numerous, throw an air of grandeur over the whole. It is about ſeventy feet high. Coaſt from hence the woody ſhores of Tomys and Glenà, they are upon the whole much the moſt beautiful ones I have any where ſeen; Glenà woods having more oak, and ſome arbutus's, are the finer and deeper ſhades; Tomys has a great quantity of birch, whoſe foliage is not ſo luxuriant. The reader may figure to himſelf what theſe woods are, when he is informed that they fill an unbroken extent of ſix miles in length, and from half a mile to a mile and a half in breadth, all hanging on the ſides of two vaſt mountains, and coming down with a full robe of rich luxuriance to the very water's edge. The acclivity of theſe hills is ſuch, that every tree appears full to the eye. The variety of the ground is great; in ſome places great ſwells in the mountain ſide, with correſponding hollows, preſent concave and convex maſſes; in others, conſiderable ridges of land and rock riſe from the ſweep, and offer to the aſtoniſhed eye yet other varieties of ſhade. Smaller mountains riſe regularly from the immenſe boſom of the larger, and hold forth their ſylvan heads, backed by yet higher woods. To give all the varieties of this immenſe ſcenery of foreſt is impoſſible. Above the whole is a prodigious maſs of mountain, of a gently ſwelling outline and ſoft appearance, varying as the ſun or clouds change their poſition, but never becoming rugged, or threatening to the eye.

The variations are beſt ſeen by rowing near the ſhore, when every ſtroke of the oar gives a new outline, and freſh tints to pleaſe the eye: but for one great impreſſion, row about two miles from the ſhore of Glenà; at that diſtance the inequalities in the ſurface are no longer ſeen, but the eye is filled with ſo immenſe a range of wood, crowned with a mountain in perfect uniſon with itſelf, that objects, whoſe character is that of beauty, are here, from their magnitude, truly magnificent, and attended with a moſt forcible impreſſion.—Returned to Mucruſs.

September 30th, this morning I had dedicated to the aſcent of Mangerton, but his head was ſo enſhrouded in clouds, and the weather ſo bad, that I was forced to give up the ſcheme[*]: Mr. Herbert has meaſured him with very accurate inſtruments, of which he has a great collection, and found his height 835 yards above the level of the ſea. The Devil's punch bowl, from the deſcription I had of it, muſt be the crater of an exhauſted volcano: there are many ſigns of them about Killarney, particulary vaſt rocks on the ſides of mountains, in ſtreams, as if they had rolled from the top in one direction. Brown ſtone rocks are alſo ſometimes found on lime quarries, toſſed thither, perhaps in ſome vaſt eruption.

In my way from Killarney to Caſtle Iſland, rode into Lord Kenmare's park, from whence there is another beautiful view of the lake, different from many of the preceding; there is a broad margin of cultivated country at your feet, to lead the eye gradually in the lake, which exhibits her iſlands to this point more diſtinctly than to any other, and the back grounds of the mountains of Glenà and Tomys give a bold relief.

Upon the whole, Killarney, among the lakes that I have ſeen, can ſcarcely be ſaid to have a rival. The extent of water in Loch Earne is much greater; the iſlands more numerous, and ſome ſcenes near Caſtle Caldwell, of perhaps as great magnificence. The rocks at Keſwick are more ſublime, and other lakes may have circumſtances in which they are ſuperior; but when we conſider the prodigious woods of Killarney; the immenſity of the mountains; the uncommon beauty of the promontory of Mucruſs, and the iſle of Innisfallen; the character of the iſlands; the ſingular circumſtance of the arbutus, and the uncommon echoes, it will appear, upon the whole, to be in reality ſuperior to all compariſon.

Before I quit it, I have one other obſervation to make, which is relative to the want of accommodations and extravagant expence of ſtrangers reſiding at Killarney. I ſpeak it not at all feelingly, thanks to Mr. Herbert's hoſpitality, but from the accounts given me: the inns are miſerable, and the lodgings little better. I am ſurpriſed ſomebody with a good capital does not procure a large well built inn, to be erected on the immediate ſhore of the lake, in an agreeable ſituation, at a diſtance from the town: there are very few places where ſuch an one would anſwer better, there ought to be numerous and good apartments. A large rendezvous-room for billiards, cards, dancing, muſic, &c. to which the company might reſort when they choſe it: an ordinary for thoſe that liked dining in public; boats of all ſorts, nets for fiſhing, and as great a variety of amuſements as could be collected, eſpecially within doors: for the climate being very rainy, travellers wait with great impatience in a dirty common inn, which they would not do if they were in the midſt of ſuch accommodations as they meet with at an Engliſh ſpaw. But above all, the prices of every thing, from a room and a dinner, to a barge and a band of muſic, to be reaſonable, and hung up in every part of the houſe: the reſort of ſtrangers to Killarney would then be much increaſed, and their ſtay would be greatly prolonged; they would not view it poſt-haſte, and fly away the firſt moment to avoid dirt and impoſition. A man, with a good capital and ſome ingenuity, would, I think, make a fortune by fixing here upon ſuch principles.

In the line of agriculture, Mr. Herbert has carried on ſome important experiments, which muſt deſerve attention. Of 360 acres he has reclaimed 140, which, before he began, were covered with great rocks, ſtones, brambles, (*rubus fruſticoſus*) and furze, (*eulex europæus.*) His firſt operation was to cut down and grub up the ſpontaneous growth that was the ſtrongeſt: but the reſt he ſet fire to, in order to plough them up with bullocks. Then he attacked the ſtones, ſome of which were five or ſix feet ſquare; the large ones were burſt in pieces by kindling fires upon them, being the brown ſand-ſtone. But this operation will have no effect on lime-ſtone; others not ſo large were drawn off the land by bullocks, to ſome of which 30 were harneſſed: but all ſtones that could be got at were by ſome means or other carried off.

This work of breaking the ſtones by fire is very curious, and exceedingly uſeful: Mr. Herbert appeared to have attended very cloſely to the operation. He informed me that they firſt light a good fire, which in about a quarter of an hour enables them to beat off the outward ſkin of the ſtone with a ſledge hammer, and they then immediately light a ſecond fire, which ſoon makes the ſtone crack. The men obſerve to keep it a lively briſk fire, free from aſhes; when the ſtone cracks, they aſſiſt it with a ſtrong blow of the hammer, which then burſts it aſunder, and is at once broken in pieces without difficulty.

In ploughing the land, as ſoon as this work was done, the remaining roots of furze, &c. were ſo large, that he was forced to faſten two ploughs together with chains, and then, with a great force of bullocks, tore up the roots, the ploughs and tackle being remarkably ſtrong. The aſhes of the wood, &c. being ſpread with thoſe of the rubbiſh, numerous ploughings were given. The ſoil a thin gravel, of a whitiſh hungry appearance, but lime changed it at once to a rich brown colour. The laſt ploughing turned in the lime: upon which, Mr. Herbert, freſh from Tull and Randal determined to become a driller, drilled it with wheat, the cleareſt proof in the world how completely the ground had been reclaimed. This crop he horſe hoed, following the directions of Tull and Duhamel; the produce was trifling, and the practice found very expenſive, and the crops unprofitable: were, however, very beautiful and elegant to look at. He tried it for wheat, lucerne, ſainfoine, red clover, beans, peaſe, and in a word, every plant recommended by the drill writers, and continued it for four years. Having aſcertained this thorough experience, that the drill huſbandry was exceedingly diſadvantageous, he gave it up, and laid down with white clover and hay ſeeds: and could be let at 20s. an acre. Mr. Herbert, however, going to England, they were not taken ſuch care of as they ought, never being manured. Some were laid down with burnet, which took very well in the land, but was ſoon overcome and choaked with natural graſs. Bird graſs he tried, got the ſeed from Rocque, but finds it a very coarſe poor plant of no value. Lucerne he had upon a very extenſive ſcale; having ſix acres of it, found it a very good graſs, fed all ſorts of cattle with ſucceſs, particularly in fattening bullocks, the fat of them being marbled in the fineſt manner imaginable. He had it in broad caſt, and uſed Rocques harrow; but upon his ſoil the harrow tore up the lucerne as well as the weeds, yet the natural graſs got much a head. The drill method is the beſt; but ſuch is the luxuriant growth of the common graſſes in Ireland, that there was the greateſt difficulty in keeping it clean. Sainfoine alſo did very well, but the graſs had with that the ſame effect as the lucerne.

Mr. Herbert has cultivated potatoes in the common lazy-bed method, upon an extenſive ſcale, and he is convinced, from repeated experience, that there is no way in the world of managing that root that equals it, eſpecially for bringing in waſte lands. It has been with the greateſt ſurpriſe that he has read this mode condemned by ſeveral Engliſh writers; when properly executed, it mixes the land and the manure, and by taking two crops ſucceſſively, and digging them out, if all the land is ſtirred, it leaves it in admirable order for a ſucceſſive crop of any kind.

Folding ſheep Mr. Herbert practiſes by means of a contrivance of his own; inſtead of hurdles, a pole 12 feet long, and 5 inch diameter, ſtruck through with perpendiculars, and having at each end two longer pieces to reſt on, in form of a croſs: thoſe are moveable, and eaſily ſet in rows. He pens the ſheep on his graſs lands, and finds the effect wonderful, nothing equalling them for manuring the land, and at a very ſmall expence. Is clearly of opinion, that nothing would be a greater improvement to Ireland than introducing the practice generally.

An obſervation which Mr. Herbert has made on mowing land is highly deſerving attention: it is, that land ought always to be mowed, though the value of the hay will not pay the expence. It is common in Ireland to mow parts of fields that are good, and leave the reſt; but he always cuts the whole, and finds the practice very advantageous to the land.

Some bog this gentleman has improved merely by draining, and then ſpreading mold upon it, without tilling or burning, brings it to a meadow as ſoon as poſſible: and this is the method he would, in all caſes, recommend for their improvement, as there is never any neceſſity of tillage in order to bring them to graſs.

Relative to the common huſbandry of this neighbourhood, I found that the ſoil is divided, between lime-ſtone and brown-ſtone. The peninſula of Mucruſs is half the one and half the other, the one ending ſuddenly where the other begins: the vale alſo to Killarney and beyond is limeſtone for the extent of many miles, and in general the mountains are all brown ſtone, and the vales lime-ſtone. Rents here are about 8s. an acre on an average, including much indifferent land, but not the mountains. About three-fifths of the county of Kerry is waſte land, not riſing to above 3d. an acre, and the other fifths on an average at 7s. an acre. Farms are from 20l. a year to 130l. the large ones include conſiderable mountain tracts. The tillage of the country is trifling. The courſe is,

1. Potatoes, ſow eight pecks, at 70lb. and get 80lb. at 7l. an acre. 2. Wheat, 6l. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. (Poor crops not above 3l. 10s. an acre.) 5. Lay it out to weeds, &c.

Lime the manure, from 60 to 80 barrels an acre, which coſts 6d. to 8d. a barrel burning. Mr. Herbert can burn it for 4d. five miles off. Paſturage is applied chiefly to dairies; the common ones about 40 or 50 cows. They are all ſet at 40s. to 50s. a cow. Three acres allowed to a cow; ſome paid in butter. The dairyman has his privilege, which is a cabbin, potatoe garden, liberty to cut turf, and a quantity of land proportioned to the number of cows. The butter is all ſent to Corke on horſes backs in truckles, and in that way the poor horſes of the country will carry 8 cwt. the diſtance 37 miles. They go in two days, and generally home in a week. Bring back rum, groceries, &c. they are paid 9d. for carrying a firkin of butter of 56lb. and for the back carriage 1s. 8d. a cwt. Very few ſheep kept; no flocks, except Mr. Herbert's. It is remarkable, that no ſheep in the country are better fattened than many upon Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks, which are the wildeſt and moſt deſolate region of all Kerry. Great herds of goats are kept on all the mountains of this country, and prove of infinite uſe to the poor people. The inhabitants are not in general well off; ſome of them have neither cows nor goats, living entirely upon potatoes, yet are they better than twenty years ago, particularly in cloathing. Price of proviſion the ſame as at Nedeen, but pork not common. Turkies, at 9d. Salmon, at 1d. Trout and perch plentiful. No pike in Kerry. Lampreys and eels, but nobody eats the former. All the poor people, both men and women, learn to dance, and are exceedingly fond of the amuſement. A ragged lad, without ſhoes or ſtockings, has been ſeen in a mud barn, leading up a girl in the ſame trim for a minuet: the love of dancing and muſic are almoſt univerſal amongſt them.

The Rev. Mr. Bland, of Wood Park, near Killarney, at whoſe houſe I had the pleaſure to dine with Mr. Herbert, has improved a great deal of boggy land; the turf ſix inches deep, burnt, but would not give aſhes; under it a brown gravel; reclaimed it by marking and trenching in May, lime eighty barrels per acre; ſpread with green fern, then leave it until Spring following, when dunged and planted, potatoes; the crop equal to the beſt: dig the potatoes, and plant a ſecond crop, which will be a greater produce, but the roots not ſo large; took care in the digging them to bring up the ſod and manure; in the ſpring dig again for turnips, or oats, the turnips will be very good, but has generally ſown oats; the crop tolerable, great ſtraw, but muſt be ſown very thin, or they will lodge; leave the oat ſtubble and it becomes in one year graſs to mow. Has tried turnips, and found them to anſwer perfectly, in fattening ſheep infinitely better than any winter or ſpring graſs.

September 30th, took my leave of Mucruſs, and paſſing through Killarney, went to Caſtle Iſland. In my way to Arbella, croſſed a hilly bog of vaſt extent, from one to ſix or ſeven feet deep, as improvable as ever I ſaw, covered with bog myrtle *(myricagale)* and coarſe graſs: it might be drained at very little expenſe, being almoſt dry at preſent. It amazed me to ſee ſuch vaſt tracts in a ſtate of nature, with a fine road paſſing through them.

To Mr. Blennerhaſſet, member for the county, I am indebted for every attention towards my information. About Caſtle Iſland the land is very good, ranking among the beſt in Kerry. From that place to Arbella, the land is as good as the management bad, every field over-run with all kinds of rubbiſh, the fences in ruins, and no appearance but of deſolation: they were mowing ſome fine crops of hay, which I ſuppoſe will be made in the ſnow. The following is the ſtate of huſbandry about Arbella.

The ſoil, from Caſtle Iſland to Tralee, is from a guinea to a guinea and a half; it is all a rich lime-ſtone land: ſome about Tralee at 3l. 10s. to 4l. 4s. About Arbella I went over ſome exceeding fine reddiſh ſandy and gravelly loam, a prodigiouſly fine ſoil: fern *(pteris aquilina)* the ſpontaneous growth, which I remarked in Ireland to be a ſure ſign of excellent land. Two thirds of the county is mountain, which runs at no great rent, being thrown into the bargain. Six parts in ſeven of the whole mountain and bog. The remainder at 10s. an acre.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat, or Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Ditto. 6. Ditto. 7. Ditto. 8. Lay it out, and not a blade of graſs comes for three or four years.

The beſt part of the country is under dairies. Great farmers hire vaſt quantities of land, in order to ſtock with cows, and let them to dairymen; one farmer, who died lately, paid 1400l. a year for this purpoſe; but 300l. or 400l. common.

The number of cows let to one man, generally from twenty to forty. Let at one cwt. and 16s. per cow, or one-half cwt. of butter, and 16s. each, ſome one cwt. 12s. and a hog, beſides one fourth part of all the calves a year old. In the mountains, half cwt. and 5s. Others with all the calves to the dairymen. The dairyman's privilege, from two to four collops kept for them, and one or two acres, with a cabbin; theſe dairymen live very indifferently, their privilege being all their profit, and ſometimes not that. The farmer who lets the cows, muſt keep the number to ſuch as give two pottles of milk. All the dairies in this county, as in others, in the bonny clobber method, that is, letting the milk ſtand ſeveral days, till the cream comes off, by taking hold of it between the fingers, like a ſkin of leather, and ſome till it is moldy, the remainder bonny clobber. Forty acres will carry twenty cows through the year. The cows are in general of the ſmall breed, but not the true Kerry, for many have been brought from other countries. A cow ſells at a guinea a pottle for the milk, above two or three pottles, that is 4l. 4s. four pottles, 5l. 5s. for five pottles, given at one meal. A little fattening of cows and ſmall bullocks, but the number not great. No ſheep kept.

As to manure none is uſed in the vale, except their dung for potatoes, but upon the mountains they lime a little.

There is a colony of Palatines, that have been fixed here above thirty years; there are now fifteen or ſixteen families; Colonel Haſſet brought them from the county of Limerick, and fixed them here as little farmers, and theſe few people coſt him above 500l. ſettling. He gave each a cow, a horſe, and every thing they wanted for a year, and let the land to them for half its value. Their improvements have been firſt, by ploughing with a wheel plough, which with two horſes works eaſily without a driver. They brought in cars with wheels, there were only ſliding ones before. They alſo ſow all their potatoes in drills with the plough, and alſo plough them out, and this with great ſucceſs, but nobody follows them.

Years purchaſe of land ſixteen to eighteen. Rents three years ago fallen exceedingly, from having been too high let, but of late they have riſen again. The riſe in the price of labour from three-pence and four-pence in twenty years, to five-pence and ſix-pence. Oyſters, two-pence to three-pence per hundred; near Tralee there is a ſtrand ſix miles long, which is on a bed of oyſters, and is a curious object. Lobſters, twelve years ago, one penny each, now two-pence to four-pence. Salmon three halfpence. Woodcocks, ten-pence a couple. Partridges, ten-pence a couple. A grouſe, one ſhilling. Whitings, one penny each. Herrings, three a penny. Plaice, turbots, mullets, and ſome ſoles. Potatoes, 1s. 6d. per cwt. the cheapeſt, medium, 2s. 6d. Cabbins of ſtone, mortar and ſlate, 25l. Many orchards in this county, give, upon an average, ten hogſheads of cyder per acre, ſome 15; they reckon young trees the beſt, from 12 to 20 years old.

The ſtate of the poor in the whole county of Kerry repreſented as exceedingly miſerable, and, owing to the conduct of men of property, who are apt to lay the blame on what they call land pirates, or men who offer the higheſt rent, and who, in order to pay this rent, muſt, and do re-let all the cabbin lands at an extravagant riſe, which is aſſigning over all the cabbins to be devoured by one farmer. The cottars on a farm cannot go from one to another, in order to find a good maſter as in England: for all the country is in the ſame ſyſtem, and no redreſs to be found. Such being the caſe, the farmers are enabled to charge the price of labour as *low* as they pleaſe, and rate the land as *high* as they like. This is an evil which oppreſſes them cruelly, and certainly has its origin in its landlords, when they ſet their farms, ſetting all the cabbins with them inſtead of keeping them tenants to themſelves. The oppreſſion is, the farmer valuing the labour of the poor at 4d. or 5d. a day, and paying that in land rated much above its value. Owing to this, the poor are depreſſed; they live upon potatoes and ſour milk, and the pooreſt of them only ſalt and water to them, with now and then a herring. Their milk is bought; for very few keep cows, ſcarce any pigs, but a few poultry. Their circumſtances are incomparably worſe than they were 20 years ago; for they had all cows, but then they wore no linen: all now have a little flax. To theſe evils have been owing emigrations, which have been conſiderable.

October 1ſt, rode over the mountain improvements which William Blennerhaſſet, Eſq; of Elm Grove, has made. I viewed it with very great attention; for it projects far into a mountain of heath, that lets only at 1s. an acre. I ſaw the progreſs of the improvement in different ſtages. He has done 250 Iriſh acres, and incloſed 300 more, and has been offered 20s. an acre for them, but the farmhouſes were not built; at preſent he has four, to which he purpoſes to throw the whole.

The method he purſued has been firſt to encloſe with double ditches, four feet deep and five broad, and the earth out of both thrown on to a parapet, ten feet broad, and ſome more, planted with rows of trees, and of oſiers, the expence in labour, 2s. a perch. While this work is doing, he ploughs nine or ten inches deep, and as ſoon as the weather will admit, burns; then he tills it again once or twice, and burns again; and before the laſt ploughing, limes 100 barrels an acre, which coſts him (burning it himſelf) ſixpence a barrel, including carriage and ſpreading: upon this he ſows corn, has tried wheat, rye, and oats, but oats anſwer the beſt; has tried potatoes, and they did pretty well, followed them with corn, and then *laying it out*, that is, leaving it to graſs itſelf. The other is to ſow corn as long as it will yield any, when it is exhauſted, to lay it out two or three years, and then plough and lime: take two crops of corn, and lay it out again; and this way he thinks is the beſt, from the experience of forty years, for ſo long the improvement has been making. Trees of all ſorts have grown perfectly well, but the aſh has done beſt. A ploughing coſts 6s. an acre. Graſſaning and burning, 2l. an acre. Mr. Haſſet's ſtock at preſent on this farm, 30 horſes, mares and foals, 100 cows, 100 ſheep, 100 young cattle, 8 plough bullocks: this is a moſt noble ſtock of cattle for a ſpot which was all heath.

Mr. Blennerhaſſet has alſo tried lime-ſtone ſand, over one part of a field, and lime upon the reſt, ſpread but lately, yet the appearance is much in favour of the ſand.

October 2d, to Ardfert by Tralee, through a continuation of excellent land, and execrable management. Mr. Bateman tried rock ſalt on graſs land for a manure, half a ton to the Engliſh acre, but found not the leaſt benefit from it. But of lime he has uſed large quantities, and with great ſucceſs; burning it for 6d. a barrel, in a ſtanding kiln with turf, four eyes or fires to each; lays on 50 barrels to an acre, and has advanced ſome land, by draining and liming, from 5, to 20s. an acre, the ſoil a cold ſtiff clayey gravel.

To the weſt of Tralee are the Mahagree Iſlands, famous for their corn products; they are rock and ſand, ſtocked with rabbits; near them a ſandy tract, 12 miles long, and one mile broad, to the north, with the mountains to the ſouth, famous for the beſt wheat in Kerry. All under the plough. Their courſe.

1. Buck potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. Alſo corn on ſome land, without any intermediate crop. Manure for every crop, if potatoes with ſea weed, great crops; they get 20 for one of wheat and barley. All grain is remarkably early; they have ſown Engliſh barley, and made bread of the crop in ſix weeks; theſe lands let at 14s. or 15s. an acre, but ſome much higher. Farms are large, one, two, or three hundred acres, but ſome are taken in

partnerſhip. I was aſſured, that in theſe iſlands, they have known two crops of barley gained from the ſame land in one year, and the ſecond better than the firſt. They ſowed the firſt of April, and reaped the middle of May, and immediately ſowed a ſecond, which they reaped the end of Auguſt. This was done by John Macdonald, of Maharaghbeg.

Arriving at Ardfert, Lord Croſby, whoſe politeneſs I have every reaſon to remember, was ſo obliging as to carry me by one of the fineſt ſtrands I ever rode upon, to view the mouth of the Shannon at Ballengary, the ſite of an old fort: it is a vaſt rock ſeparated from the country by a chaſm of a prodigious depth, through which the waves drive. The rocks of the coaſt here are in the boldeſt ſtile, and hollowed by the furious Atlantic waves into caverns in which they roar. It was a dead calm, yet the ſwell was ſo heavy, that the great waves rolled in and broke upon the rocks with ſuch violence as to raiſe an immenſe foam, and give one an idea of what a ſtorm would be, but fancy rarely falls ſhort in her pictures. The view of the Shannon is exceedingly noble; it is eight miles over, the mouth formed by two headlands of very high and bold clifts, and the reach of the river in view very extenſive: it is an immenſe ſcenery. Perhaps the nobleſt mouth of a river in Europe.

Croſſed in the way a large bog, highly improvable, ſaw ſome little ſpots taken in with heaps of ſea ſand for carrying it on.

Lord Glandore manures his ground with lime, ſea ſand, and ſea weed, the laſt is the worſt, the ſand beſt. Land lets at 12s. or 13s. an acre on an average; it riſes from 10s. to 20s.

Ardfert is very near the ſea, ſo near it, that ſingle trees or rows are cut in pieces with the wind, yet about Lord Glandore's houſe there are extenſive plantations exceedingly flouriſhing, many fine aſh and beech; about a beautiful ciſtertian abbey, and a ſilver fir of 48 years growth, of an immenſe height and ſize.

October 3d, left Ardfert, accompanying Lord Croſby to Liſtowel. Called in the way to view Lixnaw, the ancient ſeat of the earls of Kerry, but deſerted for ten years paſt, and now preſents ſo melancholy a ſcene of deſolation, that it ſhocked me to ſee it. Every thing around lies in ruin, and the houſe itſelf is going faſt off by thieving depredations of the neighbourhood. I was told a curious anecdote of this eſtate, which ſhews wonderfully the improvement of Ireland: The preſent Earl of Kerry's grandfather, Thomas, agreed to leaſe the whole eſtate for 1500l. a year, to a Mr. Collis, *for ever*; but the bargain went off upon a diſpute, whether the money ſhould be paid at Corke or Dublin. Thoſe very lands are now let at 20,000l. a year. There is yet a good deal of wood, particularly a fine aſh grove, planted by the preſent Earl of Shelburne's father.

Proceeded to Woodford, Robert Fitzgerald's, Eſq; paſſing Liſtowel bridge, the vale leading to it is very fine, the river is broad, the lands high, and one ſide a very extenſive hanging wood, opening on thoſe of Woodford in a pleaſing ſtile.

Woodford is an agreeable ſcene; cloſe to the houſe is a fine winding river under a bank of thick wood, with the view of an old caſtle hanging over it. Mr. Fitzgerald is making a conſiderable progreſs in rural improvements; he is taking in mountain ground, fencing and draining very completely, and introducing a new huſbandry. He keeps 30 pigs, which ſtock he feeds on potatoes, and has built a piggery for them. Turnips he cultivates for ſheep, and finds them to anſwer perfectly. Not being able to get men who underſtand hoeing, he thins them by hand. He has five acres of potatoes put in drills with the plough, and deſigns ploughing them out: they look perfectly well, and promiſe to be as good a crop as any in the trench way. The common courſe in this neighbourhood is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Lay it out.

Farms are very much in partnerſhip, and improvements exceedingly backward on that account. The poor live on potatoes and milk all the year round, but are rather better off than they were twenty years ago. The labour of the country is generally done for land in the manner I have ſo often deſcribed, rated at an exorbitant price, 4d. winter; 5d. ſummer; ſome 6d. round. Three-fourths of Kerry mountain and bog, at 1s. 6d. the reſt at 15s.

In 1765, Mr. Fitzgerald was travelling from Conſtantinople to Warſaw, and a waggon with his baggage, heavily laden, overſet; the country people harneſſed to buffaloes *by the horns*, in order to draw it over, which they did with eaſe. In ſome very inſtructive converſation I had with this gentleman, on the ſubject of his travels, this circumſtance particularly ſtruck me.

October 4th, from Woodford to Tarbat, the ſeat of Edward Leſle, Eſq; through a country, rather dreary, till it came upon Tarbat, which is ſo much the contrary, that it appeared to the higheſt advantage; the houſe is on the edge of a beautiful lawn, with a thick margin of full-grown wood, hanging on a ſteep bank to the Shannon, ſo that the river is ſeen from the houſe over the tops of this wood, which being of a broken irregular outline, has an effect very ſtriking and uncommon; the river is two or three miles broad here, and the oppoſite coaſt forms a promontory, which has from Tarbat exactly the appearance of a large iſland. To the eaſt, the river ſwells into a triangular lake, with a reach opening at the diſtant corner of it to Limerick: the union of wood, water, and lawn, forms upon the whole a very fine ſcene; the river is very magnificent. From the hill, on the coaſt above the iſland, the lawn and wood appear alſo to great advantage. But the fineſt point of view is from the higher hill on the other ſide of the houſe, which looking down on all theſe ſcenes, they appear as a beautiful ornament to the Shannon, which ſpreads forth its proud courſe, from two to nine miles wide, ſurrounded by highlands: a ſcenery truly magnificent. I am indebted to Mr. Leſlie's good offices for the following particulars.

Arable land about Tarbat lets at 14s. on an average; Mr. Leſlie, in 1771, let ſeveral farms at 17s. but the fall of that period reduced the rents 3s. Farms are from 50 acres to 3 or 400: it is common to have the poor people hire them in partnerſhip, but only the ſmall ones; the large are all ſtock farms. The tillage courſe;

1. Potatoes, produce 28 barrels, at 16 pecks each, and the peck 60lb. or 26,880lb. in all. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for ſeveral years. The ſecond crop of potatoes more numerous, but not ſo large; they manure for them only with dung. The oats yield ſix barrels, each 26 ſtone, being double ones. Very little wheat ſown but by gentlemen or large farmers, who burn the land; plough it, and burn the ſod, which they call *beating*, and manure with lime or ſea-ſand; 40 barrels of lime at 1s. The ſtone is brought from an

iſland towards Limerick. They get ſand at the ſame place. Lime does beſt for tillage, and ſand for graſs. The ſtock farms are either under dairies, or in the ſucceſſion ſyſtem, of buying in year olds from the county of Clare, and keeping them till three or four years old, the heifers till they calve; buy at a guinea to 30s. ſell from 3l. 5s. to 4l. 10s. at four year old. There are alſo ſome cows fattened: bought in in general at 3l. or 3l. 10s. ſell in October at 4l. 10s. to 5l. The dairies are ſet to dairymen, the price is one cwt. of butter, and 10s. to 15s. horn money; the dairyman has all the calves, and muſt ſell off at Michaelmas. His privilege is a houſe and potatoe garden, and graſs for a cow for every ten. A collop here, is one cow, one horſe, two yearlings, ſix ſheep; two acres to feed a collop, and ſome two and a half. Every cabbin has a bit of flax, which they ſpin and manufacture for their own uſe, there being ſome weavers diſperſed about the country. A little pound yarn is ſold beſides to Limerick, but not much. A little wool is ſpun for their own uſe, and wove into frize.

The ſtate of the poor is ſomething better than it was twenty years ago, particularly their cloathing, cattle, and cabbins. They live upon potatoes and milk; all have cows; and when they dry them, buy others. They alſo have butter, and moſt of them keep pigs, killing them for their own uſe. They have alſo herrings. They are in general in the cottar ſyſtem,

tem, of paying for labour by aſſigning ſome land to each cabbin. The country is greatly more populous than twenty years ago, and is now increaſing; and if ever ſo many cabbins were built by a gradual increaſe, tenants would be found for them. A cabbin, and five acres of land, will let for 4l. a year. The induſtrious cottar, with two, three, or four acres, would be exceedingly glad to have his time to himſelf, and have ſuch an annual addition of land as he was able to manage, paying a fair rent for it; none would decline it but the idle and worthleſs.

Tythes are all annually valued by the proctors, and charged very high. There are on the Shannon about 100 boats employed in bringing turf to Limerick from the coaſt of Kerry and Clare, and in fiſhing, the former carry from 20 to 25 tons, the latter from five to ten, and are navigated each by two men and a boy.

October 5th, paſſed through a very unentertaining country (except for a few miles on the bank of the Shannon) to Altavilla, but Mr. Bateman being from home, I was diſappointed in getting an account of the Palatines ſettled in his neighbourhood. Kept the road to Adair, where Mrs. Quin, with a politeneſs equalled only by her underſtanding, procured me every intelligence I wiſhed for.

Land lets about Adair from 10s. to 40s. an acre, average 20s. the richeſt in the country is the Corcaſſes on the Maag, which lets at 30s. to 36s. a tract of five miles long, and two broad, down to the Shannon, which are better than thoſe on that river; the ſoil is a kind of yellow and blue clay, of which they make bricks; but there is a ſurface of blue mould. The graſs of them is applied to fattening bullocks, from 7 to 8 cwt. each, and an acre fats one, and gives ſome winter and ſpring food for ſheep. When they break this land up, they ſow firſt oats, and get 20 barrels an acre, or 40 common barrels, and do not reckon that an extra crop; they take ten or twelve in ſucceſſion, upon one ploughing, till the crops grow poor, and then they ſow one of horſe beans, which refreſhes the land enough to take ten crops of oats more; the beans are very good. Wheat ſometimes ſown, and the crops very great. Were ſuch barbarians ever heard of?

In the common courſe of lands about Adair, the courſe of crops is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Lay out.

Potatoes they plant on graſs without dung, a good crop, 60 barrels to an acre, at 8s. a barrel average. When they hire it they pay ſix guineas an acre; they dung tillage land and poor lays for them. Of wheat they ſow a barrel an acre, and the crop in general eight to ten of thoſe barrels. Oats they ſow two to an acre, and get twelve to ſixteen. The low bottoms of moory and ruſhy kind they plough, and burn the furrows; upon that burning they plough in the aſhes and harrow in rape ſeed, a pottle, or three quarts to an acre; never feed, but keep it for ſeed, and get eight Briſtol barrels an acre; it ſells uſually at 14s. to 18s. a barrel; they ſow bere afterwards, the produce ten barrels an acre; then a crop of oats, twelve to ſixteen barrels, and then leave it to lay. No graſs ſeeds ſown.

Farms riſe from 40 acres to 2000l. a year; ſome few of the little ones are taken by cottars, in partnerſhip, but not common; the large farms are all ſtock ones. Turnips have been ſown many years, but by few; a little on pared and burnt land in the bottoms, inſtead of rape; the crops very large; they give them all to fat ſheep, in order to keep their fleſh for a better market after Chriſtmas; it is found to be a very advantageous practice, but not increaſing. No hoeing. Hemp is ſown a little by the Palatines, but by few others. Flax, by every cabbin, in order for a little ſpinning for their own uſe.

The ſyſtem of the ſtock farmers is in general dairying, but upon the beſt lands they fatten bullocks, cows being only kept on lands which they think will not do for bullocks. The cows are all let, and paid for principally by butter, one cwt. to a cow, and 25s. horn money. The dairyman's privilege is a cabbin, a garden of an acre, and the graſs of a cow or horſe to every twenty cows, and may rear half the calves, and keep them to November or Chriſtmas. To 60 acres, 24 cows, 1 horſe, 30 ſheep; this is juſt two acres a head, and it is about the average of the country. The dairymen are not in good circumſtances, making a mere living. The ſwine here are of a large white ſort, and riſe to two cwt. they are moſtly fattened on potatoes, but have ſome oats at laſt to harden the fat. A good many ſheep; the ſyſtem is to keep the lambs till three year old wethers, and ſell them fat at 20s. each; the fleeces 7lb. Tythes, wheat 6s. barley 5s. Oats 4s. Rape no tythe. Potatoes 8d. to 10d. mowing ground 1s. to 3s. ſheep 2d. each.

The poor people do not all keep cows, but all have milk; all have pigs and poultry; are not better off than twenty years ago. Have a potatoe garden, of which one-half to three-fourths of an acre carries a family through the year; they live entirely upon them, ſelling their pigs. They pay a guinea for a cabbin, and 10 perch; if half an acre, 2l. 2s. A whole acre, and a cabbin on poor ground, 3l. 3s. but not ſo cheap if near a village. Labour paid in land in general. Graſs of a collop 2l. 2s. if a cow hayed, 50s.

Palatines were ſettled here by the late Lord Southwell, about ſeventy years ago. They have in general leaſes for three lives, or 31 years, and are not cottars to any farmer, but if they work for them, are paid in money. The quantities of land are ſmall, and ſome of them have their feeding land in common by agreement. They are different from the Iriſh in ſeveral particulars; they put their potatoes in with the plough, in drills, horſehoe them while growing, and plough them out. One third of the dung does in this method, for they put it only in the furrows, but the crops are not ſo large as in the common method. They plough without a driver; a boy of twelve has been known to plough and drive four horſes, and ſome of them have a hopper in the body of their ploughs, which ſows the land at the ſame time it is ploughed. Their courſe of crops is,

1, Potatoes, 2. Wheat. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.

In which management they keep their land many years, never laying it out as their neighbours do. They preſerve ſome of their German cuſtoms: ſleep between two beds. They appoint a burgomaſter, to whom they appeal in caſe of all diſputes; and they yet preſerve their language, but that is declining. They are very induſtrious, and in conſequence are much happier and better fed, cloathed, and lodged, than the Iriſh peaſants. We muſt not, however, conclude from hence that all is owing to this; their being independent of farmers, and having leaſes, are circumſtances which will create induſtry. Their crops are much better than thoſe of their neighbours. There are three villages of them, about ſeventy families in all. For ſome time after they ſettled they fed upon ſour crout, but by degrees left it off, and took to potatoes: but now ſubſiſt upon them and butter and milk, but with a great deal of oat bread, and ſome of wheat, ſome meat and fowls, of which they raiſe many. They have all offices to their houſes, that is, ſtables and cow houſes, and a lodge for their ploughs, &c. They keep their cows in the houſe in winter, feeding them upon hay and oat ſtraw. They are remarkable for the goodneſs and cleanlineſs of their houſes. The women are very induſtrious, reap the corn, plough the ground ſometimes, and do whatever work may be going on; they alſo ſpin, and make their children do the ſame. Their wheat is much better than any in the country, inſomuch that they get a better price than any body elſe. Their induſtry goes ſo far, that jocular reports of its exceſs are ſpread: in a very pinching ſeaſon, one of them yoked his wife againſt a horſe, and went in that manner to work, and finiſhed a journey at plough. The induſtry of the women is a perfect contraſt to the Iriſh ladies in the cabbins, who cannot be perſuaded, on any conſideration, even to make hay; it not being the cuſtom of the country; yet they bind corn, and do other works more laborious. Mrs. Quin, who is ever attentive to introduce whatever can contribute to their welfare and happineſs, offered many premiums to induce them to make hay, of hats, cloaks, ſtockings, &c. &c. but all would not do.

Few places have ſo much wood about them as Adair: Mr. Quin has above 1000 acres in his hands, in which a large proportion is under wood. The deer park of 400 acres is almoſt full of old oak and very fine thorns, of a great ſize; and about the houſe, the plantations are very extenſive, of elm and other wood, but that thrives better than any other ſort. I have no where ſeen finer than vaſt numbers here. There is a fine river runs under the houſe, and within view are no leſs than three ruins of franciſcan friaries, two of them remarkably beautiful, and one has moſt of the parts perfect except the roof.

In Mr. Quin's houſe, there are ſome very good pictures, particularly an annunciation, by Dominicino, which is a beautiful piece. It was brought lately from Italy by Mr. Quin, junior. The colours are rich and mellow, and the airs of the heads inimitably pleaſing; the group of angels at the top, to the left of the piece, are very natural. It is a piece of great merit. The companion is a magdalen; the expreſſion of melancholy, or rather miſery, remarkably ſtrong. There is a gloom in the whole in full uniſon with the ſubject. There are, beſides theſe, ſome others inferior, yet of merit, and two very good portraits of Lord Dartry, (Mrs. Quin's brother) and of Mr. Quin, junior, by Pompeio Battoni. A piece in an uncommon ſtile, done on oak, of Eſther and Ahaſuerus: the colours tawdry, but the grouping attitudes an effect pleaſing.

October 7th, to Caſtle Oliver, by Bruff, paſſing through a very fine tract of rich reddiſh loam. The Right Hon. Mr. Oliver was aſſiduous to the laſt degree to have me completely informed. About his ſeat, the ſoil is brown ſtone on indifferent ſlate ſtrata, mountainous; the mountain tops are thrown into the bargain; mountain farms, tops, bottoms and ſides, 1s. an acre; furze land reclaimed, and ſome from 15s. to 20s. Farms of all ſizes, but the occupying tenants have from 15 to 100 acres, ſome 300. The courſe of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Potatoes. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out: ſometimes only two of potatoes.

They manure for potatoes with all the dung they can get. Very little under tillage, and the graſs applied chiefly to dairies. In one particular they are very attentive; to conduct the mountain ſtreams into their graſs lands; cutting little channels, to introduce the water as much as poſſible over the whole; and though it comes from a poor mountain of brown ſtone, or turf, yet the benefit they find to be very great. This is a general cuſtom among all the little occupiers; and they are frequently coming to Mr. Oliver, with complaints of each other for diverting or ſtealing one another's ſtreams. This is an inſtance of excellent huſbandry, which I do not recollect meeting with before in Ireland. They always mow it the year they water it, and their crops of hay 2 ton, or 2½ an acre. They do not reclaim any mountain, but ſometimes a little furze land for potatoes. They have ſome lime-ſtone ſand; but being at a diſtance, they uſe it in ſmall quantities, a few barrels an acre ſown for potatoes, which is effectual in preventing them from being wet or rotting. The ſtate of the poor people better in theſe mountainous tracts than upon the rich flats of Limerick, both from there being more employment and greater plenty of land for them. Some few farms taken in partnerſhip. The cattle ſyſtem is generally dairying cows, which are all ſet to dairymen. There has been a fall in rents ſince 1771-2, of 2s. 3s. or 4s. an acre, but it is not falling at preſent. Building a cabbin 4l. to 5l. Ditto ſtone, ſlate, &c. 25l.

Relative to the rich lands of this country, they are principally found, firſt in the barony of Small County, which is rich; Coonagh has much; Coſhlea a great deal, and much mountain; Clanwilliam, a good ſhare. The rich land reaches from Charleville, at the foot of the mountains, to Tipperary, by Kilfenning, a line of twenty-five miles, and acroſs from Ardpatric to within four miles of Limerick, 16 miles. Bruff, Kilmallock, and Hoſpital have very good land about them; the quantity in the whole conjectured to be 100,000 acres. It is in general under bullocks, but there is ſome tillage ſcattered about, to the amount probably of a fifteenth of the whole; the rents are from 25s. to 40s. but average 30s. an acre.

The county of Limerick, beſides the rich grazing, has a light lime-ſtone land for ſheep and cows, at 15s. to 20s. There are alſo yellow clays, from 10s. to 20s. alſo middling land of furze and fern, from 10s. 6d. to 1l. 1s. Some mountain 1s. likewiſe fifteen miles of corcaſſes on the Shannon, two to three miles broad. Average of the whole county, 20s. The county of Tipperary, 18s.

As to the ſoil I am able to ſpeak of it particularly, for Mr. Oliver was ſo kind as to ride through a great variety of it, a man with a ſpade following to dig; the fineſt ſoil in the country is upon the roots of mountains; it is a rich, mellow, crumbling, putrid, ſandy loam, eighteen inches to three feet deep, the colour a reddiſh brown. It is dry ſound land, and would do for turneps exceedingly well, for carrots, for cabbages, and in a word for every thing. I think upon the whole, it is the richeſt ſoil I ever ſaw, and ſuch as is applicable to every purpoſe you can wiſh: it will fat the largeſt bullock, and at the ſame time do equally well for ſheep, for tillage, for turneps, for wheat, for beans, and in a word, for every crop and circumſtance of profitable huſbandry.

The lower lands are wetter, and under them a yellow clay, whereas in the upper, it is ſandy loam to a conſiderable depth. The rent in England would be conſiderably higher than this of the bullock land in Ireland.

The farms are of all ſizes. The bullock farm riſe to 600 acres, which quantity is a large farm; but there are many ſmall ones under cottars and dairymen: the general run in ſtocking is a bullock of four and a half to ſeven cwt. average five hundred and a half to the acre, and quarter for the ſummer's graſs; but their not generally having a bullock to an acre, is owing to their keeping ſheep and calves ſo late, in which they do even to June. The winter's hay amounts to about a rood, beſides the acre for the ſummer food. Theſe beaſts are bought in at autumn, at three or four years old, average price, 5l. they are fed regularly through the winter with hay every day in the fields where they are to be fattened in ſummer; they chuſe the dry fields for it, but ſtill miſchief is done by it. All the hay is ſtacked in the fields for this purpoſe. The time of ſelling autumn. The profit they make per bullock on an average, about three guineas. The principal winter ſyſtem is buying calves, at 1l. 1s. to 2l. 2s. keeping them till May, and then ſelling them at 20s. to 30s. profit, but give them a bellyful of their beſt hay. A great many ſheep are alſo ſent to be wintered from Tipperary, which is extraordinary, as their own lands are much drier than theſe of Limerick: they do this by hiring farms for the purpoſe This is one of the moſt profitable articles; they bring the ſpring lambs in October, and keep them till May, and then ſend them back to Tipperary, and they are much better than thoſe they left there.

The graziers are many of them rich, but generally ſpeaking, not ſo much from the immediate profit, as from advantageous leaſes. I wanted much to be informed of their profit, but it is exceedingly difficult to come near it, for not a grazier in the country but denies his making any thing conſiderable: this is ſuppoſed to be a great piece of art, but I am very apt to think the truth not ſo far from the declaration, at leaſt as well as I am able to judge from the information I have received.

Rent of an acre and a half for a bullock	2	12	6
County ceſs, at 6d. - -	0	0	9
Mowing and making one-third of an acre hay	0	3	0
Carried over	£. 2	16	3

Brought over	£. 2	16	3
A bullock 5l. intereſt at 6 per cent.	0	6	0
Labour 1s. 6d. an acre	0	2	3
	£. 3	4	6
Profit on a bullock	3	3	0
Winter food, two ſheep at 5s.	0	10	0
	3	13	0
Expences	3	4	5
Profit	£. 0	8	7

From this is to be deducted the whole of chances, the loſs of cattle, &c. and from what I was able to pick up, I have reaſon to believe that it does not exceed 10s. an acre at moſt. The ſum neceſſary to ſtock 6l. an acre. I muſt obſerve that the profit is very low for land to yield, which is of ſuch extraordinary fertility; it is of that ſoil which would do very well for tillage, for though it is not dry, yet it has not the wetneſs of our Engliſh clays, and would in a courſe of good tillage, pay infinitely better as every perſon muſt admit who are at all acquainted with the wet lands of Norfolk, Suffolk, Eſſex, &c. I am however very far from recommending it, for if the Iriſh tillage ſhould be introduced, the very contrary would be the caſe, and the landlord ſuffer exceedingly from his eſtate being exhauſted. In no part of Ireland have I ſeen more careleſs management

ment than in theſe rich lands. The face of the country is that of deſolation; the grounds are over-run with thiſtles, *(carduus)* ragwort, *(ſenecio jacobæa)* &c. to exceſs; the fences are mounds of earth, full of gaps; there is no wood, and the general countenance is ſuch, that you muſt examine into the ſoil before you will believe that a country, which has ſo beggarly an appearance, can be ſo rich and fertile.

To ſhew the riſe of land, Sir Harry Harpſon has a farm of 400 acres, which his grandfather let in 1676, at 4s. 6d. an acre, and thought ſo dear that an offer of a ſcore of ſheep and two goats were offered to be off; it would let now at 30s. I had this fact from himſelf. The breed of cattle here is all long horned. There are ſome cows fattened alſo, but not near ſo many as oxen. Likewiſe ſome dairies, which are ſet, one cwt. butter, and 20s. horn money. The dairyman's privilege is two or three cows, a cabbin and a garden. The number of cows ſeldom above a ſcore: but they are found ſo troubleſome and impoſing, that they have taken a different method, and employed dairywomen on their own account.

Great quantities of flax ſown by all the poor and little farmers, which is ſpun in the country, and a good deal of bandle cloth made of it. This and pigs are two great articles of profit here; they keep great numbers, yet the poor in this rich tract of country are very badly

off.

off. Land is ſo valuable, that all along as I came from Bruff, their cabbins are generally in the road ditch, and numbers of them without the leaſt garden; the potatoe land being aſſigned them upon the farm where it ſuits the maſter beſt. The price they pay is very great, from 4l. to 5l. an acre, with a cabbin; and for the graſs of a cow, 40s. to 45s. They are, if any thing, worſe off than they were twenty years ago. A cabbin, an acre of land, at 40s. and the graſs of two cows, the recompenſe of the year's labour: but are paid in different places by an acre of graſs for potatoes at 5l. Thoſe who do not get milk to their potatoes, eat muſtard with them, raiſing the ſeed for the purpoſe. The population of the country increaſes exceedingly, but moſt in the higher lands; new cabbins are building every where. The tillage in theſe rich lands conſiſts in,

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. (on ſpots $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ acre flax after the 2d Potatoes.) 3. Wheat. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Lay it out.

Mr. Oliver has known 150 Briſtol barrels, each four buſhels heaped of potatoes, which make ſix buſhels, or 900 from an acre. The weight, ſtrike meaſure, 15 ſtone. The common crop, 150 heaped barrels, at 4s. average price. Opinions differ much, whether the ſecond crop is better or worſe, but from one practice they have, I am clear which it muſt be; for they truſt to the ſmall potatoes left in the ground as ſeed, which are neceſſarily irregular: and I have found, by various trials, that a ſlice of a middling potatoe is far better than a whole ſmall one.

POTATOES.

Rent	5	13	8
Seed, ſixteen barrels and a half, at 10s.	2	15	0
Cutting ſeed	0	5	6
Digging	0	14	0
Carrying out	0	2	6
Trenching and ſowing	1	5	0
Weeding	0	10	0
Digging out	1	10	0
Gathering	0	10	0
Carrying home	0	9	6
Houſing	0	6	0
Picking	0	10	0
Tythe	0	12	0
	£. 15	3	2

CROP.

One hundred and fifty barrels, at 4s. each	30	0	0
Expences	15	3	2
Profit	14	16	10

One hundred barrels, at 4s. each - -	20	0	0
Expences - - - -	15	3	2
Profit -	£. 4	16	10

The Briſtol barrel, which is here charged at 4s. is heaped, and weighs 22 ſtone. The quality of the corn raiſed on theſe rich lands is much better than any other in the country; the quantity of barley per acre, 12 Briſtol barrels.

Mr. Ryves, a gentleman of the neighbourhood I had the pleaſure of meeting at Caſtle Oliver; on 3¼ acres ſowed nine buſhels of bere, from which 111 Briſtol barrels, ſtriked meaſure. Of wheat, the crops fluctuating, but a middling one 12 barrels. Mr. Ryves has had 20 of oats, generally 15. All theſe crops are with good tillage: there are many who do not get near ſo much.

There is a bolting mill at Limerick, at Annſgrove, at Marlefield, at Clonmell, at Caſtle Hyde, at Newport: hence therefore there is no want of a market in this country for corn. I was ſurprized to find that land, in this rich country, ſells at as many years purchaſe as in mountain tracts. Limerick is famous for cyder; the fineſt cakaggee is at Mr. Waller's, Mr. Maſſey's, Mr. Weſtrope's, Mr. Monſon's, &c. The ſoil of the orchard's thin, on limeſtone.

Mr. Oliver has practiſed huſbandry on a pretty extenſive ſcale. A conſiderable part of his land is improved mountain, which he grubbed and cleared of ſpontaneous rubbiſh, and manured with lime-ſtone ſand; and then cultivated ſome for corn, and ſome for turnips: where the land is boggy, he burns, in order to get rid of that ſoil which he conſiders as worth but little. Whatever he ſows, the land runs at once immediately to thick fine graſs, even on the mountain top; ſo that a ſtubble will, in the firſt year, yield a great crop of hay. A ſtrong proof how adapted this country is to paſturage. In the breed of cattle he has been very attentive, purchaſing bulls and cows, at the expence of twenty guineas each, of the long-horned Lancaſhire breed, and from them has bred others. I ſaw two exceeding well-made bulls of a year old of his breeding, which would have made a conſiderable figure in Leiceſterſhire. Turnips he has cultivated for many years, applying them chiefly to feeding deer, but he has fattened ſome ſheep on them with good ſucceſs. Hollow draining he has practiced upon an extenſive ſcale, and laid a large tract of wet land dry by it.

Mr. Oliver planted a colony of Palatines 15 years ago, from about Rathkeal, 66 families in one year, which made 700 proteſtants, on his own eſtate. Fixed them upon ſpots, of from thirteen to thirty acres each, charging them only two thirds of the rent, which he could get of others; built houſes for them at the expence of above 500l. gave them leaſes for three lives. The benefit of them has been introducing much tillage; to the proportion of their little farms, they till much more than the Iriſh. They drill their potatoes, and on ſtubble land worn out. Houſe their cattle, feeding them with hay, and raiſing thereby dung. They are cleaner and neater, and live much better: are better cloathed, and all of them have neat little kitchen gardens. Many of them labour for nobody but themſelves, and none of them conſtantly for others, being employed principally on their own little farms. They live partly on ſour crout.

Caſtle Oliver is a place almoſt entirely of Mr. Oliver's creation; from a houſe, ſurrounded with cabbins and rubbiſh, he has fixed it in a fine lawn, ſurrounded by good wood. The park he has very much improved on an excellent plan; by means of ſeven feet hurdles, he fences off part of it that wants to be cleaned or improved, theſe he cultivates, and leaves for graſs, and then takes another ſpot, which is by much the beſt way of doing it. In the park is a glen, an Engliſh mile long, winding in a pleaſing manner, with much wood hanging on the bank. Mr. Oliver has conducted a ſtream through this vale, and formed many little water-falls in an exceeding good taſte, chiefly overhung with wood, but in ſome places open with ſeveral little rills, trickling over ſtones down the ſlopes. A path winds through a large wood and along the brow of the glen; this path leads to an hermitage, a cave of rock, in a good taſte, and to ſome benches, from which the views of the water and wood are in the ſequeſtered ſtile they ought to be. One of theſe little views, which catches ſeveral falls under the arch of the bridge, is one of the prettieſt touches of the kind I have ſeen. The vale beneath the houſe, when viewed from the higher grounds, is pleaſing; it is very well wooded, there being many incloſures, ſurrounded by pine trees, and a thick fine maſs of wood riſes from them up the mountain ſide, makes a very good figure, and would be better, had not Mr. Oliver's father cut it into viſtos for ſhooting. Upon the whole, the place is highly improved, and when the mountains are planted, in which Mr. Oliver is making a conſiderable progreſs, it will be magnificent.

In the houſe are ſeveral fine pictures, particularly five pieces by Seb. Ricci, Venus and Æneas; Apollo and Pan, Venus and Achilles; and Pyrrhus and Andromache, by Lazzerini; and the rape of the Lapithi, by the centaurs: the laſt is by much the fineſt, and is a very capital piece; the expreſſion is ſtrong, the figures are in bold relief, and the colouring good. Venus and Achilles is a pleaſing picture; the continence of Scipio is well grouped, but Scipio, as in every picture I ever ſaw of him, has no expreſſion. Indeed, chaſtity is in the countenance ſo *paſſive* a virtue as not to be at all ſuited to the genius of painting; the idea is rather that of inſipidity, and accordingly Scipio's expreſſion is generally inſipid enough. Two fine pieces, by Lucca Jordano, Hercules and Anteus; Sampſon killing the lion: both dark and horrid, but they are highly finiſhed, and ſtriking. Six heads of old men, by Nogari, excellent; and four young women, in the character of the ſeaſons.

October 9th, left Caſtle Oliver. Had I followed my inclination, my ſtay would have been much longer, for I found it equally the reſidence of entertainment and inſtruction. Paſſed through Kilfennan and Duntreleague, in my way to Tipperary. The road leads every where on the ſides of the hills, ſo as to give a very diſtinct view of the lower grounds; the ſoil all the way is the ſame ſort of ſandy reddiſh loam I have already deſcribed, incomparable land for tillage: as I advanced, it grew ſomething lighter, and in many places free from gravel. Bullocks the ſtock all the way. Towards Tipperary I ſaw vaſt numbers of ſheep, and many bullocks. All this line of country is part of the famous golden vale. To Thomas-Town, where I was ſo unfortunate as not to find Mr. Mathew at home; the domain is 1500 Engliſh acres, ſo well planted, that I could hardly believe myſelf in Ireland. There is a hill in the park, from which the view of it, the country and the Galties, are ſtriking.

To the Earl of Clanwilliam's, where I was particularly fortunate in meeting Meſſrs. Macarthy and Keating, ſons to two of the greateſt farmers that ever were in Ireland. The country is all under ſheep, and the ſoil dry ſandy loam. The ſheep ſyſtem of Tipperary is to breed and keep the lambs till three-year old wethers, fat, and ſell them at 26s. at an average; keep the ewe lambs, and cull the old ſtock, ſelling an equal number of fat ewes at three to four years old, the average price 20s. in October, the wool of all the ſtock in general amounts to three fleeces, per ſtone, of 16lb. or 6s. a head. From hence to Clonmell, there are many ſheep; to Cullen in Kilkenny, three or four miles beyond Thurles, within two miles of Cullen, three or four and twenty miles N. to S. and from Cullen to within three miles of Cullen, which is 30: generally ſpeaking, this is all ſheep, but there are many ſpots in it where bullocks are fed. The ſtock mixed with ſheep are uſually calves, bought in at ſix to eight months, 30s. to 40s. average 32s. and when they are three year old, ſend them to the richer lands in the county of Limerick, (where every Tipperary grazier has a farm) to fat. When they have not enough of their own rearing, they buy three-year olds at Ballynaſloe, and fatten them in Limerick. In general, this land will carry three to five ſheep to the acre, and bear ſome calves beſides. One acre and three quarters a bullock the year through, one half for hay.

Arrangement of a flock of 2,500 ſheep.

500 ewes
500 lambs
500 hoggarts
500 two-year olds
250 fat wethers
250 ewes, added to ſtock, inſtead of 250 older ones ſole off

2500 at 5 to an acre 500 acres

250 fat wethers, at 26s. - -	324	18	0
250 culled ewes, at 20s. - -	250	0	0
2000 fleeces, at 6s. - -	600	0	0
	£. 1174	18	0

A part of the ſtock of fat wethers is kept over from October to the ſpring, for the Dublin market, not merely for the high price, but becauſe underlings, and not fat in autumn, and ſell for leſs than the reſt, ſeldom more than 19s. or 20s. To 3000 ſheep a grazier in this neighbourhood has 30 acres of turnips, in order to feed this part of his wether ſtock with. Mr. Macarthy with 8000 ſheep, has ſeldom more than 30 acres. This ſyſtem will be further explained by Mr. Allen's ſtock.

1,200 acres—2,000 ſheep, beſides lambs—Sells 200 four year-old wethers, at 26s.—200 three year-olds, at 26s.—200 barren ewes, at 18s.—2,000 fleeces, at 5s.—400 two-year olds —400 year olds—500 Brood ewes—500 lambs —Land to feed this flock, 1000 acres. Alſo 120 bullocks—40 cows and ſpayed heifers and working bullocks for work, and milk breeding.—30 horſes, mares, &c.—30 labourers, 5 ſhepherds—20 acres of wheat—10 barley—10 oats—10 turnips—8 potatoes—60 mowing ground—Rent of this large tract of ſheep-land from 20 to 25s. an acre.

Farms are generally large, commonly 3 or 4000 acres, and riſe up to 10,000, of which quantity there is one farm, this is Mr. Macarthy's, of Spring Houſe, near Tipperary, and is I ſuppoſe the moſt conſiderable one in the world. Here are ſome of the particulars of it:

9,000 acres in all---10,000l. rent---8,000 ſheep----2,000 lambs---550 bullocks---80 fat cows---20,000l. value of ſtock---200 yearlings---200 two-year olds---200 three-year olds ---80 plough bullocks---180 horſes, mares and foals---150 to 200 labourers---200 acres tillage.

Mr. Richard Dogherty, of Locklogher, 76 bags of wool at 500lb. to 600lb. this year. Loſs of ſheep and cattle one-half per cent. No folding. For hiring and ſtocking, 5l. an acre. A ſhepherd is allowed four cows, a horſe, a cabbin, and three acres of garden, and as much hay as they like for their cattle.

Slaughter at Corke of cows and bullocks undoubtedly much leſſened. The increaſe of tillage is in Tipperary owing to bolting mills.

The quantity of tillage in this country trifling, but the crops are large; there are ſeveral courſes. The turnip huſbandry often upon burnt land, ſome on lime and fallow, and ſome on fallow alone.

1. Turnips. 2. Fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats. 10. Lay it out.

1. Turnips. 2. Fallow. 3. Potatoes. 4. Bere. 5. Wheat. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats.

1. Burn for rape ſeed. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. Lay out. And ſometimes they take two crops of wheat. They never hoe turnips.

Mr. Dexter of Cullen, had a ram, half a guinea a leap, and great numbers of ewes were ſent to him, the breed much improving.

Potatoes, average produce, 80 to 100 Briſtol barrels, at 5s. average price, and the poor people pay 5 to 6 guineas for land. They often take two crops with adding ſome ſeed, pay the ſame price for the ſecond; they pay this price for turnip land burnt; graſs potatoes not generally known. The quantity of wheat 10 barrels to 15.—Bere 15 to 18.—Barley 12 to 18.—Oats 12 to 15. Their turnips they ſeldom ſow before the 12th of July. Their manures are lime and lime-ſtone gravel, the gravel for crops, and lime for graſs; they uſe it on lime-ſtone land, and with great ſucceſs. The ſoil a mellow, dry ſandy, or gravelly loam, on lime-ſtone or lime-ſtone gravel. Much bog in this country, that of Allen comes in a line through the Queen's County to within three miles of Caſhel. One-fifth of Tipperary, mountain, the reſt 20s. an acre. Land ſells at 20 years purchaſe. Rents have fallen four or five ſhillings an acre ſince 1771 and 1772.

Price of Cattle.

Yearling bullock, 3l. to 3l. 10s. Store bullock, 6l. to 7l. Fat ditto, 10l. to 12l. Profit on a bullock, 4l. to 4l. 10s. A bullock fat of ten guineas, weighs 6 cwt.

Newtown, 250 acres, a farm of Mr. Dogherty's, under bullocks from May to November, and 1100 lambs all winter through.

I had heard much of the late Mr. Keating's farm, of Garranlad, as the largeſt that ever was; his ſon gave me the following particulars of it:

10,000l. a year rent. 13,800 Iriſh acres. 3,000 head of black cattle. 16,300 ſheep. 300 horſes. 500 couple of ducks. 300

turkies. 90 hogſheads of cyder a year. He had moſt of the ground from Golding to Clonmell. Collops here in order are, 1 horſe. 6 ſheep. 1 cow. 1 fat bullock. 2 yearlings. 3 calves.

To Cullen, Newtown, Palace, Carrick on Liſh, rents 30 s. an acre. Reſpecting the ſtate of the poor in this country they are paid by a cabbin, and one acre and a half of land, for which they are reckoned 4l. and for graſs of a cow 2l. 2s. They live upon potatoes and milk; generally have cows, but not all, and thoſe who have not, buy, but very many of them have for the half year, only potatoes and ſalt. They all keep pigs. They are juſt as they were 20 years ago. Prices, wheat 1s. 1d. per ſtone. Engliſh barley, 10d. Oats, 6d. Bere, 7d. Hay 1l. 2s. 9d. a ton.

Rape is very commonly ſown upon burnt land; they never feed it, but let it ſtand for ſeed, of which they get 12 to 15 barrels, and it ſells at 16s. a barrel. Burning I ſhould explain, is only the remaining turf after two ploughings, the firſt in November, and after Chriſtmas a croſs ploughing; harrow in March, and burn in May.

Accompanied Lady Clanwilliam in a drive through her plantations; ſhe has planted a broad margin for ſeveral miles round a domain, (which his Lordſhip walled in with intention of building) and done it with equal taſte and ſucceſs. The attention ſhe has given to this rational amuſement, and the ſenſible and agreeable manner in which ſhe renders every tree intereſting by her deſcriptions and remarks, are formed to ſet off a female character in a light at leaſt as reſpectable and as amiable as the moſt brilliant exhibition that a capital can witneſs. The twig which ſhe plants with her hand, and nouriſhes by her care, will not diſappoint her in the pleaſure ſhe expects; it will thrive with her attention, and greet her with its friendly ſhade: when will Dublin prove as grateful?

October 12th, to Lord de Montalt's at Dundrum, a place which his Lordſhip has ornamented in the modern ſtile of improvement: the houſe was ſituated in the midſt of all the regular exertions of the laſt age. Parterres, parapets of earth, ſtraight walks, knots and clipt hedges, all which he has thrown down, with an infinite number of hedges and ditches, filled up ponds, &c. and opened one very noble lawn around him, ſcattered negligently over with trees, and cleared the courſe of a choaked up river, ſo that it flows at preſent in a winding courſe through the grounds. He continues this work of dreſſing the fields contiguous to him, to give them a neat appearance, and advances in it every year, even his tillage lands are all kept in the ſame neat manner, with fences new done, and the whole carrying the moſt cultivated appearance.

His Lordſhip's ſyſtem of huſbandry is an admirable one; it is in the great outline to take farms into his own hands, as the leaſes expire, to keep them for improvement, and when done to relet them. This is the true agriculture for profit for a landlord; he has upon this ſyſtem improved near 2000 acres. Throwing down the old miſerable fences which ſplit the farms into little ſcraps of fields, and made new ditches for drains and water-courſes, diſpoſed the new fields to the beſt advantage, drained them with ſtone drains where wet, broke up ſuch of the graſs as was bad, cultivated it enough to bring it into proper order, and laid it down again to meadow; there cannot be a better ſyſtem, or more calculated at the ſame time to ornament a country, and improve his own eſtate.

His Lordſhip has alſo followed ſeveral practices in farming, which have proved of great ſervice; among others, keeping hogs upon clover. He had a mind to ſhew the countryman that they might keep many hogs (a very advantageous ſtock to them) by means of clover; he kept four ſows and twenty-four pigs the ſummer through on one acre, by which he made 10l. produce. A clear proof that the huſbandry would be highly advantageous with this view.

Turnips he cultivates upon a very large ſcale; was the firſt who had them here on ſtubbles; he has thirty or forty acres, and every year has a large quantity; drills them with a very cheap ſimple drill, his own invention, and thins them out by hand, or hoes them. I viewed his crop, and found them very regular, and of a good ſize; with the leaves of the whole of a remarkable deep green, without any yellow ones: more ſo, I think, than is common in England, and I obſerved the ſame circumſtance with the other crops I ſaw. He uſes them for feeding and fattening ſheep, giving them on dry graſs land; alſo for ſtall-feeding bullocks, and finds the advantage of both uſes ſo great, that he does not know what he ſhould do without them.

In the winter management of his cattle, he proceeds on very different principles from what is common in Ireland; inſtead of feeding them abroad, and for that purpoſe ſtacking the hay about the fields, he ties them up in ſtalls, of which he has many, and is erecting more: he ties up above 100 head, in which he finds the greateſt advantage, both in the cattle, ſaving food, and yielding dung. The breed of ſheep he has begun to change, from the long-legged Tipperary to the ſhort legs of Leiceſterſhire; has ſeveral tups of that breed, and finds that the change is of the higheſt conſequence. Folding he has practiced with the greateſt ſucceſs. The breed of hogs he has alſo changed to the Berkſhire, and has one of the fineſt boars of that breed I have ſeen.

Cabbages he cultivated for ſeveral years, but finds them burſt too ſoon to be of conſiderable uſe; turnips much better: but Reynolds' turnip-cabbage he finds excellent for late ſpring food; has eight acres of very fine ones this year, which coſt him juſt 20l. labour of manuring included.

Lord de Montalt keeps 2000 acres in his hands, 1500 ſheep, 40 plough bullocks, 12 cows, &c. His Lordſhip, for the purpoſe of draining his clay lands, ploughs and ſhovels them up into broad highlands, ſo as to form regular ſegments of circles, in the manner practiſed in ſome counties in England; he does this that the furrows may be drains to the land, for French drains will not run, owing to the ſtiffneſs of the clay. He has not much of this land, however; for in general his ſoil is the rich reddiſh ſandy loam of the golden vale. He does much of his ploughing with the plough of Warwick and Shropſhire, and finds it anſwers very well.

The mountain lands of Tipperary oneſeventh of the county, the reſt lets at 20s. an acre on an average. There is ſome woollen manufactory ſcattered through it, eſpecially at Thurles, Tipperary, Clonmell, &c. Mr. John Fenning, near Colchin, employs 30 combers. The year's purchaſe of land 20, was 25 ſome years ago. The fall owing partly to the expectation of an abſentee land-tax.

October 13th, leaving Dundrum, paſſed through Caſhel, where is a rock and ruin on it, called the rock of Caſhel, ſuppoſed to be of the remoteſt antiquity. Towards Clonmell, the whole way through the ſame rich vein of red ſandy loam I have ſo often mentioned: I examined it in ſeveral fields, and found it to be of an extraordinary fertility, and as fine turnip land as ever I ſaw. It is much under ſheep; but towards Clonmell there is a great deal of tillage.

The firſt view of that town backed by a high ridge of mountains, with a beautiful ſpace near it of incloſures, fringed with a ſcattering of trees, was very pleaſing. It is the beſt ſituated place in the county of Tipperary, on the Sure, which brings up boats of ten tons burthen. It appears to be a buſy populous place, yet I was told that the manufacture of woollens is not conſiderable. It is noted for being the birthplace of the inimitable Sterne. Within two miles of it is Marlefield, the ſeat of Stephen Moore, Eſq; celebrated in Ireland for his uncommon exertions in every branch of agriculture. It was not without the greateſt concern that I found him abſent. Seeing this Gentleman however in London afterwards, he was kind enough to favour me with the following particulars:

His mill was built ſeven years ago, and coſt 15,000l. the wages of the millers, including candles, coals, ſoap, tallow, &c. 7 or 800l. a year: it contains 9 ſtones for wheat, and 4 for oatmeal: it has a very complete apparatus for ſifting, cleaning, &c. and granaries of uncommon magnitude, holding 10,000 barrels: began to be worked with only 3,000 barrels of wheat in a year, which has riſen gradually to 20,000 barrels in 1776, a very ſtrong proof of the great increaſe of tillage in the neighbourhood. Very much of it is between Clonmell and Caſhel, in which tract there was formerly more ſheep in one pariſh, than now in three; alſo much in the Corke road to Cloheen, but no mountain heath ground improved. The change has been from ſheep and bullocks. He has a proſpect of doing yet more, and at the ſame time that other mills have been erected that grind much, perhaps the whole is not ſhort of 40,000 barrels. The farmers do not bring their wheat from a greater diſtance than 16 miles. Mr. Moore finds it neceſſary to kiln dry all. I mentioned to him the bad colour of all the wheat in his own, and every other mill in Ireland, he attributed it only to wet harveſts. He ſends his flour to Dublin, on the bounty, which rather more than pays the expence of carriage 6d. per cwt. Never exports on his own account, but ſends a little to Waterford. It goes to Dublin in cars, which takes each eight to ten cwt. that is from four to five bags. He uſed to pay 3s. a cwt. in winter, and 3s. 6d. in ſummer for 84 miles, but now the price is 2s 6d. in ſummer, and 3s. in winter. Mr. Moore tried Engliſh broad-wheeled waggons, with high priced ſtrong horſes, but they did not anſwer at all: he has found the cars to carry much greater loads.

He has not found that the premium has over ſtocked the Dublin market, which he attributes to there being an export from Dublin, notwithſtanding ſuch exported corn receives no bounty. The bran Mr. Moore applies to breeding and fattening hogs, contrary to the practice of moſt other mills, who having tried it, have given that practice up. He has thirty breeding ſows and ſix hundred pigs, which are fed and fattened entirely on it, and the fat is firm and good. The price of bran is 1s. 1d. the ſix ſtone, and the hogs anſwer ſo well, that he would contract for other bran to be delivered him at that price, in order to uſe it in this manner. He does not depend entirely on breeding his own, but buys many ſtores. He is entirely in the Berkſhire breed, which he finds much ſuperior to the Iriſh. I obſerved his hogs, and thought them very fine ones. His ſows bring three litters each, ſeven pigs on an average, in a year and a quarter; ſells them at half a year to two years old, putting them to fat as ſoon as they have done growing; but when there is a great demand, fats them young. The average fat pig, two cwt.

at from 20s. to 30s. a cwt. medium 25s. The dung is a conſiderable profit; he finds it beyond any other. He has given bran alſo to fatting ſtore cattle, having built ſtalls for that purpoſe; gives them hay till when near fat, then leaves off the hay. His working horſes are fed on bran entirely, no oats.

Mr. Moore contracts for biſcuit, which he bakes in large quantities, and bread for the whole town of Clonmell. He has eight ovens going for biſcuit. Starch he alſo makes large quantities of. Adjoining his flour mill, he has erected a rape mill, for making oil; the ſeed is all raiſed in the neighbourhood. The cake ſells at 48s. a ton, and is exported, ſome to Holland, but moſt to England for manure. He has tried feeding beaſts with it, but it will not do at all: they would have died. This fact has long been known in England. It is the cake of lint ſeed that fattens. We have, however, very florid writers of *this* age, who ſpeak of oxen fattening on *rape* cake as a common thing.

Mr. Moore's huſbandry is alſo worthy of conſiderable notice. His principal attention has been given to cattle; ſeventeen years ago he imported Leiceſterſhire rams, Northampton ſtallions, and a Craven bull from England, and has at different times ſince had bulls from Bakewell and others, and has himſelf ſold yearling bull calves, from 10l. to 30l. a piece, and rams from 10l. to 40l. Long experience has told him that the long horned Craven breed of cattle is preferable to any other. I enquired particularly into the quantity of milk, becauſe the common objection is their not giving much. Sir William Oſborne, as well as Mr. Moore, aſſured me that he had ſeen one of them milked, and the milk meaſured ſeventeen quarts at one meal; but the average ſix to ten quarts at a meal, which is neither better nor worſe than the common cows of the country: but the milk is much better and thicker, and yields more butter than that of the Holderneſſe. I examined his bulls, cows, and oxen, with attention; he has a bull which deſerves every commendation for ſhape; and three or four out of ſix or ſeven prime cows I ſaw, were very beautiful ones.

Of ſheep he keeps 1000, that is 200 ewes, 200 year-olds; 200 two-year olds; 200 barren ewes, and 200 lambs. He ſells every year 200 two-year old fat wethers, and 100 barren ewes; the wethers in October, at 28s. and the ewes in the ſpring, at 25s. His fleeces are 7lb. each on an average, at 1s. per lb.

Turnips he has cultivated for ſome years, up to 30 acres in a year, broad caſt, has not hoed, from finding them very good without. He both draws and feeds on the land. He has had cabbages alſo, but never more than two acres, finds them more expenſive, but do not go ſo far as turnips.

To Sir William Oſborne's, three miles the other ſide Clonmell. From a character ſo remarkable for intelligence and preciſion. I could not fail of meeting information of the moſt valuable kind. This gentleman has made a mountain improvement which demands particular attention, being upon a principle very different from common ones.

Twelve years ago he met with a hearty looking fellow of forty, followed by a wife and ſix children in rags, who begged. Sir William queſtioned him upon the ſcandal of a man in full health and vigour, ſupporting himſelf in ſuch a manner: the man ſaid he could get no work: *Come along with me, I will ſhew you a ſpot of land upon which I will build a cabbin for you, and if you like it you ſhall fix there.* The fellow followed Sir William, who was as good as his word: he built him a cabbin, gave him five acres of a heathy mountain, lent him four pounds to ſtock with, and gave him, when he had prepared his ground, as much lime as he would come for. The fellow flouriſhed; he went on gradually; repaid the four pounds, and preſently became a happy little cottar: he has at preſent twelve acres under cultivation, and a ſtock in trade worth at leaſt 80l. his name is John Conory.

The ſucceſs which attended this man in two or three years, brought others, who applied for land, and Sir William gave them as they applied. The mountain was under leaſe to a tenant, who valued it ſo little, that upon being reproached with not cultivating, or doing ſomething with it, he aſſured Sir William, that it was utterly impracticable to do any thing with it, and offered it to him without any deduction of rent. Upon this mountain he fixed them; gave them terms as they came determinable with the leaſe of the farm, ſo that every one that came in ſucceſſion had ſhorter and ſhorter tenures; yet are they ſo deſirous of ſettling, that they come at preſent, though only two years remain for a term.

In this manner Sir William has fixed twenty-two families, who are all upon the improving hand, the meaneſt growing richer; and find themſelves ſo well off, that no conſideration will induce them to work for others, not even in harveſt: their induſtry has no bounds; nor is the day long enough for the revolution of their inceſſant labour. Some of them bring turf to Clonmell, and Sir William has ſeen Conory returning loaded with ſoap aſhes.

He found it difficult to perſuade them to make a road to their village, but when they had once done it, he found none in getting croſs roads to it, they found ſuch benefit in the firſt. Sir William has continued to give them whatever lime they come for; and they have deſired 1000 barrels among them for the year 1766, which their landlord has accordingly contracted for with his lime-burner, at 11d. a barrel. Their houſes have all been built at his expence, and done by contract at 6l. each, after which they raiſe what little offices they want for themſelves.

Sir William being prejudiced againſt the cuſtom of burning land, inſiſted that they ſhould not do it, which impeded them for ſome time; but upon being convinced that they could not go on well without it, he relaxed, and ſince that they have improved rapidly. He has informed them, that upon the expiration of the leaſe, they will be charged ſomething for the land, and has deſired that they will mark out each man what he wiſhes to have; they have accordingly run diviſions, and ſome of them have taken pieces of 30 or 40 acres: a ſtrong proof that they find their huſbandry beneficial and profitable. He has great reaſon to believe that nine-tenths of them were white boys, but are now of principles and practice exceedingly different from the miſcreants that bear that name. The lime Sir William gives them for the firſt breaking up, and the quantity they chuſe is 40 barrels an acre, ſo that all the expenſe is 6l. for the houſe, and 1l. 16s. 8d. an acre for the land they improve. He has little doubt but they will take the whole mountain among them, which conſiſts of 900 acres. Their courſe of tillage is,

1. Potatoes on the burning, generally *Turks*, (cluſtered) and great crops. 2. Rye. 3. Oats, and then leave it out; the graſs is,

Their cattle are feeding on the mountain in the day, but of nights they houſe them in little miſerable ſtables. All their children are employed regularly in their huſbandry, picking ſtones, weeding, &c. which ſhows their induſtry ſtrongly; for in general they are idle about all the country. The women ſpin.

Too much cannot be ſaid in praiſe of this undertaking. It ſhows that a reflecting penetrating landlord can ſcarcely move without the power of creating opportunities to do himſelf and his country ſervice. It ſhows that the villainy of the greateſt miſcreants, is all ſituation and circumſtance: EMPLOY, don't *hang* them. Let it not be in the ſlavery of the cottar ſyſtem, in which induſtry never meets its reward, but by giving property, teach the value of it; by giving them the fruit of their labour, teach them to be laborious. All this Sir William Oſborne has done, and done it with effect, and there probably is not an honeſter ſet of families in the county than thoſe which he has formed from the refuſe of the white boys.

Suppoſe he builds a houſe to every twenty acres, and limes that quantity of land, the expenſe would be a few ſhillings over 40l. or 40s. an acre. If they pay him 2s. 4d. an acre for the land, he will make juſt 6l. per cent. for his money: a moſt ſtriking proof of the immenſe profit which attends mountain improvements of every kind, becauſe inſtead of 2s. 4d. they would conſider 6s. or 7s. as a rent of favour.

4s. 8d. is 12 per cent. for his money; 7s. is 18 per cent. Yet in ſpite of ſuch facts do the lazy, trifling, inattentive, negligent, *ſlobbering*, profligate owners of Iriſh mountains leave them, as they received them, from the hands of their anceſtors, in the poſſeſſion of grouſe and foxes. Shame to ſuch a ſpiritleſs conduct!

One-third of Waterford mountain at 6d. an acre, and two-thirds at 7s. Twenty miles on the coaſt in length, and eight or ten in breadth, is under dairies, of which the rent per acre is little known, farms being paid for by the cows they will maintain, at 50s. each. Theſe dairies riſe to 50 and even 100 cows. They all keep great numbers of hogs, which increaſe every day from the high price. The ſtate of the poor people much better than formerly; they uſed to have one acre of potatoes, and the graſs of one cow for their year's labour, and no more, and were much greater ſlaves than at preſent.

Tillage does not thrive in the county; it has, however, increaſed pretty much about Dungarvon, from whence there has been a tolerable export of corn; not only from its neighbourhood, but alſo from a diſtance, owing to the mobs of Clonmell and Carrick ſtopping corn going to Waterford, which has injured the latter town.

October 15th, left New Town, and keeping on the banks of the Sure, paſſed through Carrick to Curraghmore, the ſeat of the Earl of

Tyrone. This line of country, in point of ſoil, inferior to what I have of late gone through: ſo that I conſider the rich country to end at Clonmell. For the following account of the huſbandry of the county of Waterford I am obliged to the attention of Lord Tyrone, who omitted no means of informing me accurately.

That county is divided into very large farms, and the renters of them keep cows generally, which they let to dairymen. One farmer, Mr. Peor, has 2000 cows, and pays 2000l. a year, but they rarely let more to one man than 50 cows, uſually about 20; many of theſe men pay weekly, and others quarterly: the rent from 50s. to 3l. 5s. no ſuch thing as horn-money. The dairyman's privilege is a houſe and two or three acres of land, or a horſe and two cows in twenty. They make nothing but butter, and all keep hogs; but do not feed them with milk, ſelling it all; 1,300 to 1,500 churns full of milk, each eight gallons, goes into Waterford every day in the year, and a prodigious quantity to Carrick. The county is by far the greateſt dairying one in Ireland. The breed is the common mountain cow, poor to look at, but great milkers, five or ſix pottles at a meal common. Price of them 5l. at an average. Average rent of all the land under cows, 10s. One-third of the county mountain, at 6d. the other two-thirds, at 10s. Along the Blackwater, good land, and four miles round Waterford, 20s. or 25s. The quantity for a cow from two to four acres. They generally breed their own by rearing a few calves every year; the young ſtock are kept on the mountains in ſummer, and in the worſt of the low land in winter. They never feed their cows with any hay, except in very ſevere weather. No other ſtock but cows.

The ſoils are various at this end of the county, clay and ſhingly ſlate, with a reddiſh mold upon it and gravelly loams. At the other end, they have lime-ſtone lands. They have, however, about Curraghmoor lime-ſtone gravel of a ſtiff nature. Lime at the kiln 9d. a barrel; Lord Tyrone pays 1s. for the ſtone, and 2s. 8d. a barrel for the culm, and pays 2d. a barrel for breaking and burning, all which make 9d. Every barrel of culm gives ſeven of lime; a ton of ſtone produces four barrels of lime: the barrel of lime four cubical feet. Not a thirtieth part of the country under the plough. The tillage conſiſts only of a little patches broken up by the cabbins; it has been increaſing theſe 15 years: but the principal increaſe has been within theſe ten years. The courſe of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley, or oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats: continued while the land yields. Wheat is coming in. Some who till large fields, and do not take ſo many crops. About Dungarvon, there are many potatoes planted, which are ſent to Dublin in boats, with loads of birch brooms, and they are ſaid

to be loaded with *fruit* and *timber*. But in no part of the county do they plant graſs potatoes: they plant many of the bull or turk ſort for their pigs, but they are reckoned an unwholeſome ſort for the people to feed on. Paring and burning land was common before the law paſſed againſt it, but of late very little. Upon the coaſt there is a great deal of ſea-weed and ſea-ſand, eſpecially beyond Dungarvon and Waterford. Flax is ſcarcely any where ſown. The poor people feed on potatoes and milk; moſt of them have cows; many of them for a part of the year only ſalt: but they have oat bread when potatoes are not in ſeaſon. They all keep pigs, but never eat them. Their circumſtances are in general greatly better than they were twenty years ago, both in food and cloathing; they have now all ſhoes and ſtockings, and are decently dreſſed every Sunday. No hats among the women, and it is the ſame in other parts. Their labour is valued, and they are paid the amount in land. The religion of the lower claſſes is the Roman catholic.

Emigrations from this part of Ireland principally to Newfoundland, for a ſeaſon; they have 18l. or 20l. for their pay, and are maintained, but they do not bring home more than 7l. to 11l. Some of them ſtay and ſettle; three years ago there was an emigration of indented ſervants to North Carolina, of 300, but they were ſtopped by contrary winds, &c. There had been ſomething of this conſtantly, but not to that amount. The oppreſſion which the poor people have moſt to complain of, is the not having any tenures in their lands, by which means they are entirely ſubject to their employers.

Manufactures here are only woollens. Carrick is one of the greateſt manufacturing towns in Ireland. Principally for ratteens, but of late they have got into broadcloths, all for home conſumption; the manufacture increaſes, and is very flouriſhing. There are between three and four hundred people employed by it, in Carrick and its neighbourhood.

Lord Tyrone is clear that if his eſtate in Londonderry was in Waterford, or that all the inhabitants of it were to emigrate from it, ſo as to leave him to new model it, he would be able to get full one-third more for it than he can do at preſent; rents in the north depending not on quality, but on price of linen.

The riſe in the proſperity of Ireland, about the year 1749, owing to the higher price of proviſions, which raiſed rents and enforced induſtry. Butter now 9d. a lb. thirty years ago 2½d.

Tythes are uſually compounded for by the year through this county. Wheat pays 10s. Barley, 10s. Oats, 5s. Mowing ground, 4s. Sheep, 1d. each. Milk ſells in ſummer for a halfpenny a quart; five quarts of butter-milk in ſummer for a halfpenny.

Lord Tyrone has improved 127 acres of hill, the ſoil reddiſh dry loam, on a ſlaty bottom, over-run with French and Iriſh furze, and briars and buſhes; he firſt grubbed them up at a guinea an acre: then he levelled an infinite number of old ditches and mounds, at 50l. expenſe, ploughed in winter, and ſecond ploughed in May; and 200 barrels of roach lime per acre, ſpread, at 1s. a barrel. Upon this ploughed twice more; and ſowed, part with wheat at Michaelmas, and part with barley in ſpring. The crops exceedingly good; 8 barrels an acre of wheat, and 18 of barley. After the wheat, barley and graſs ſeeds were ſown; the barley as good as the other; and upon the barley, part oats were ſown, the crop 15 barrels, and white clover and hay ſeeds. Before the improvement, it let at 10s. an acre; after the improvement it would let readily at 25s. The grubbing the furze was not effectual, for 50l. has been ſince expended in grubbing up ſcattered ones. They are now completely deſtroyed, is a very beautiful well-laid lawn, and ſo good land, that the wool of the ſheep alone that were kept there laſt year, without other food, and through the year paid 20s. an acre for the whole. It would now feed 600 ſheep through the year. Over 90 acres limed, with 250 barrels an acre, and fallowed, had 17 barrels an acre of wheat. Eight years ago, his Lordſhip ſtopped their burning land; but upon receiving many complaints at it, he ſold them lime at 9d. a barrel, which coſt him 1s. in order to make up the imaginary loſs.

I had the pleaſure of meeting, at Lord Tyrone's, William Shanly, Eſq; of Willyfield, in Leitrim, who informed me that he had twelve hundred per acre from a bad red bog, ſtone of potatoes four feet deep, drained to the clay at bottom; lime-ſtone ſand at 3l. labour, beſides horſes; dunged it a common covering, and immediately planted the potatoes, dug them, and ſowed barley, 15 barrels an acre. Barley again 12 barrels; barley again 8 barrels, grew too rank, laid with graſs ſeeds, could let at 40s. an acre: anſwers ſo well, that he would have done any quantity of it; did 20 acres. He planted with a plough 29½ ſtone of potatoes in rows, four feet aſunder; the produce was 1,440 ſtone, the quantity of land about three rood. In the county Leitrim, four-fifths of mountain, at 2d. or not ſo much; the remaining fifth, 6s. the mountains in Leitrim all wet, a boggy ſurface.

Curraghmoor is one of the fineſt places in Ireland, or indeed that I have any where ſeen. The houſe, which is large, is ſituated upon a riſing ground, in a vale ſurrounded by very bold hills, which riſe in a variety of forms, and offer to the eye, in riding through the grounds, very noble and ſtriking ſcenes. Theſe hills are exceedingly varied, ſo that the detour of the place is very pleaſing. In order to ſee it to advantage, I would adviſe a traveller to take the ride which Lord Tyrone carried me. Paſſed through the deer park wood of old oaks, ſpread over the ſide of a bold hill, and of ſuch an extent, that the ſcene is a truly foreſt one, without any other boundary in view than what the ſtems of trees offer from mere extent, retiring one behind another till they thicken ſo much to the eye, under the ſhade of their ſpreading tops, as to form a diſtant wall of wood. This is a ſort of ſcene not common in Ireland, it is a great extent alone that will give it. From this hill enter an evergreen plantation, a ſcene which winds up the Deer-park hill, and opens on to the brow of it, which commands a moſt noble view indeed. The lawns around the houſe appear at one's feet, at the bottom of a great declivity of wood, almoſt every where ſurrounded by plantations. The hills on the oppoſite ſide of the vale againſt the houſe, conſiſt of a large lawn in the center of the two woods, that to the right of an immenſe extent, which waves over a mountain ſide, in the fineſt manner imaginable, and lead the eye to the ſcenery on the left, which is a beautiful vale of rich incloſures, of ſeveral miles extent, with the Sure making one great reach through it, and a bold bend juſt before it enters a gap in the hills towards Waterford, and winds behind them; to the right you look over a large plain, backed by the great Cummeragh mountains. For a diſtinct extent of view, the parts of which are all of a commanding magnitude, and a variety equal to the number, very few proſpects are finer than this.

From hence the boundary plantation extends ſome miles to the weſt and north-weſt of the domain, forming a margin to the whole of different growths, having been planted, by degrees, from three to ſixteen years. It is in general well grown, and the trees thriven exceedingly, particularly the oak, beech, larch, and firs. It is very well ſketched, with much variety given to it.

Paſs by the garden acroſs the river, which murmurs over a rocky bed, and follow the riding up a ſteep hill, covered with wood from ſome breaks, in which the houſe appears perfectly buried in a deep wood, and come out, after a conſiderable extent of ride, into the higher lawn, which commands a view of the ſcenery about the houſe; and from the brow of the hill the water, which is made to imitate a river, has a good effect, and throws a great air of chearfulneſs over the ſcene, for from hence the declivity below it is hid; but the view, which is the moſt pleaſing from hence, the fineſt at Curraghmoor, and indeed one of the moſt ſtriking that is any where to be ſeen, is that of the hanging wood to the right of the houſe, riſing in ſo noble a ſweep as perfectly to fill the eye, and leave the fancy ſcarce any thing to wiſh: at the bottom is a ſmall ſemicircular lawn around, which flows the river, under the immediate ſhade of very noble oaks; the whole wood riſes boldly from the bottom, tree above tree, to a vaſt height, of large oak, the maſſes of ſhade are but tints of one colour, it is not chequered with a variety, there is a majeſtic ſimplicity, a unity in the whole, which is attended with an uncommon impreſſion, and ſuch as none but the moſt magnificent ſcenes can raiſe.

Deſcending from hence through the roads, the riding croſſes the river, paſſes through the meadow, which has ſuch an effect in the preceding ſcene, from which alſo the view is very fine, and leads home through a continued and an extenſive range of fine oak, partly on a declivity, at the bottom of which the river murmurs its broken courſe.

Beſides this noble riding, there is a very agreeable walk runs immediately on the banks of the river, which is perfect in its ſtile; it is a ſequeſtered line of wood, ſo high on the declivities in ſome places, and ſo thick to the very edge in others, overſpreading the river, that the character of the ſcene is gloom and melancholy, heightened by the noiſe of the water falling from ſtone to ſtone; there is a conſiderable variety in the banks of it, and in the figures and growth of the wood, but none that hurts the impreſſion, which is well preſerved throughout.

October 17th. accompanied Lord Tyrone to Waterford; made ſome enquiries into the ſtate of their trade, but found it difficult, from the method in which the Cuſtom-houſe books are kept, to get the details I wiſhed; but in the year following, having the pleaſure of a long viſit at Ballycanvan, the ſeat of Cornelius Bolton, Eſq; his ſon, the member for the city, procured me every information I could wiſh, and that in ſo liberal and polite a manner, that it would not be eaſy to expreſs the obligations I am under to both. In general I was informed that the trade of the place had increaſed conſiderably in ten years, both the exports and imports. The exports of the products of paſturage, full one-third in twelve years. That the ſtaple trade of the place is the Newfoundland trade; this is very much increaſed, there is more of it here than any where. The number of people who go paſſengers in the Newfoundland ſhips is amazing; from ſixty to eighty ſhips, and from three thouſand to five thouſand annually. They come from moſt parts of Ireland, from Corke, Kerry, &c. Experienced men will get 18 to 25l. for the ſeaſon, from March to November; a man who never went will have five to ſeven pounds, and his paſſage, and others riſe to 20l. the paſſage out they get, but pay home two pounds. An induſtrious man in a year will bring home twelve to ſixteen pounds with him, and ſome more. A great point for them is to be able to carry out all their ſlops, for every thing there is exceedingly dear, one or two hundred per cent. dearer than they can get them at home. They are not allowed to take out any woollen goods but for their own uſe. The ſhips go loaded with pork, beef, butter, and ſome ſalt: and bring home paſſengers, or get freights where they can; ſometimes rum. The Waterford pork comes principally from the barony of Iverk in Kilkenny, where they fatten great numbers of large hogs; for many weeks together they kill here three to four thouſand a week, the price 50s. to 4l. each; goes chiefly to Newfoundland. One was killed in Mr. Penroſe's cellar, that weighed five cwt. and a quarter, and meaſured from the noſe to the end of the tail, nine feet four inches.

There is a foundery at Waterford for pots, kettles, weights, and all common utenſils; and a manufactory by meſſieurs King and Tegent, of anvils to anchors, 20 cwt. &c. which employs 40 hands. Smiths earn from 6s. to 24s. a week. Nailors, from 10s. to 12s. And another leſs conſiderable. There are two ſugar-houſes, and many ſalt-houſes. The ſalt is boiled over lime-kilns.

There is a fiſhery upon the coaſt of Waterford, for a great variety of fiſh, herrings particularly in the mouth of Waterford harbour, and two years ago in ſuch quantities there, that the tides left the ditches full of them. There are ſome premium boats both here and at Dungarvon, but the quantity of herrings barrelled is not conſiderable.

The butter trade of Waterford has increaſed greatly for 7 years paſt; it comes from Waterford principally, but much from Carlow; for it comes from 20 miles beyond Carlow, for 6d. per cwt. From the firſt of January, 1774, to the firſt of January, 1775, there were exported 59,856 caſks of butter each on an average, one hundred weight at the mean price of 50s. Revenue of Waterford, 1751, 17,000l. --- 1776, 52,000l. The ſlaughter trade has increaſed, but not ſo much as the butter. Price of butter now at Waterford, 58s. twenty years average, 42s. Beef now to 25s. average, twenty years, 10s. to 18s. Pork now 30s. average, twenty years, 16s. to 22s. Eighty ſail of ſhips now belonging to the port, twenty years ago not 30. They pay to the captains of ſhips of 200 tons, 5l. a month; the mate 3l. 10s. Ten men, at 40s. five years ago only 27s. Building ſhips, 10l. a ton. Wear and tear of ſuch a ſhip, 20l. a month. Ship proviſions, 20s. a month.

The new church in this city is a very beautiful one; the body of it is in the ſame ſtile exactly as that of Belfaſt already deſcribed: the total length 170 feet, the breadth 58. The length of the body of the church 92, the height 40; breadth between the pillars 26. The iſle (which I do not remember at Belfaſt) is 58 by 45. A room on one ſide the ſteeple, ſpace for the biſhop's court, 24 by 18; on the other ſide, a room of the ſame ſize for the veſtry; and 28 feet ſquare left for a ſteeple when their funds will permit. The whole is light and beautiful: it was built by ſubſcription, and there is a fine organ beſpoke at London. But the fineſt object in this city is the quay, which is unrivalled by any I have ſeen; it is an Engliſh mile long; tbe buildings on it are only common houſes, but the river is near a mile over, flows up to the town in one noble reach, and the oppoſite ſhore a bold hill, which riſes immediately from the water to a height that renders the whole magnificent. This is ſcattered with ſome wood, and divided into paſtures of a beautiful verdure, by hedges. I croſſed the water, in order to walk up the rocks on the top of this hill; in one place, over againſt Bilberry quarry, you look immediately down on the river, which flows in noble reaches from Granny caſtle on the right paſt Cromwell's rock, the ſhores on both ſides, quite ſteep, eſpecially the rock of Bilberry. You look over the whole town, which here appears in a triangular form; beſides the city, the Cummeragh mountains, Slein-a-man, &c. come in view. Kilmacow river falls into the Sure, after flowing through a large extent of well planted country; this is the fineſt view about the city.

From Waterford to Paſſage, and got my chaiſe and horſes on board the Counteſs of Tyrone pacquet, in full expectation of ſailing immediately, as the wind was fair, but I ſoon found the difference of theſe private veſſels and the poſt office pacquets at Holyhead and Dublin. When the wind was fair the tide was foul: and when the tide was with them, the wind would not do; in Engliſh there was not a complement of paſſengers, and ſo I had the agreeableneſs of waiting with my horſes in the hold, by way of reſt, after a journey of above 1500 miles.

October 18th. after a beaſtly night paſſed on ſhip board, and finding no ſigns of departure, walked to Ballycanvan, the ſeat of Cornelius Bolton, Eſq; rode with Mr. Bolton, jun. to Faithleghill, which commands one of the fineſt views I have ſeen in Ireland. There is a rock on the top of a hill, which has a very bold view on every ſide down on a great extent of country, much of which is graſs incloſures of a good verdure. This hill is the center of a circle of about ten miles diameter, beyond which higher lands riſe, which after ſpreading to a great extent, have on every ſide a back ground of mountain: in a northerly direction, mount Leinſter, between Wexford and Wicklow, twenty-ſix miles off, riſes in ſeveral heads, far above the clouds. A little to the right of this, Sliakeiltha (*i. e.* the woody mountain) at a leſs diſtance, is a fine object. To the left, Tory hill, only five miles, in a regular form varies the out-line. To the eaſt, there is the long mountain, eighteen miles diſtant, and ſeveral leſſer Wexford hills. To the ſouth-eaſt, the Saltees. To the ſouth the ocean, and the colines about the bay of Tramore. To the weſt, Monavollagh riſes 2160 feet above the level of the ſea, eighteen miles off, being part of the great range of the Cummaragh mountains; and to the north-weſt Slinaman, at the diſtance of twenty-four miles; ſo that the out-line is every where bold and diſtinct, though diſtant. Theſe circumſtances would alone form a great view, but the water part of it, which fills up the canvaſs, is in a much ſuperior ſtile. The great river Sure takes a winding courſe from the city of Waterford, through a rich country, hanging on the ſides of hills to its banks, and dividing into a double channel, forms the leſſer iſland, both of which courſes you command diſtinctly; united, it makes a bold reach under the hill on which you ſtand, and there receive the noble tribute of the united waters of the barrow and the Nore, in two great channels, which form the larger iſland; enlarged by ſuch an acceſſion of water, it winds round the hill in a bending courſe, of the freeſt and moſt graceful outline, every where from one to three miles acroſs, with bold ſhores, that give a ſharp outline to its courſe to the ocean; twenty ſail of ſhips at Paſſage, gave animation to the ſcene; upon the whole, the boldneſs of the mountain outline; the variety of the grounds; the vaſt extent of river, with the declivity to it from the point of view, altogether form ſo unrivalled a ſcenery—every object ſo commanding, that the general want of wood is almoſt forgotten.

Two years after this account was written I again viſited this enchanting hill, and walked to it, day after day, from Ballycanvan, and with increaſing pleaſure. Mr. Bolton, jun. has ſince I was there before, incloſed forty acres on the top and ſteep ſlope to the water, and began to plant them. This will be a prodigious addition; for the ſlope forming the bold ſhore for a conſiderable ſpace, and having projections from which the wood will all be ſeen in the gentle hollows of the hill, the effect will be amazingly fine. Walks and a riding are tracing out, which will command freſh beauties at every ſtep; the ſpots from which a variety of beautiful views are ſeen are numerous. All the way from Ballycanvan to Faithleg, the whole to the amount of 1200 acres, is the property of Mr. Bolton.

Farms about Ballycanvan, Waterford, &c. are generally ſmall, from twenty and thirty to five hundred acres, generally about two hundred and fifty, all above two hundred acres are in general dairies; ſome of the dairy ones riſe very high. The ſoil is a reddiſh ſtony, or ſlaty gravel, dry, except low lands, which are clay or turf. Rents vary much about the town very high, from 5l. 5s. to 9l. but at the diſtance of a few miles towards Paſſage, &c. they are from 20s. to 40s. and ſome higher, but the country in general does not riſe ſo high, uſually 10s. to 20s. for dairying land. The courſe of crops is,

1. Potatoes; the produce 40 to 80 barrels, 20 ſtones each. 2. Wheat; the crop 8 barrels, each 20 ſtones. 3. Oats; the produce from 10 to 14 barrels. 4. Barley; the crop 12 to 15 barrels, 16 ſtone each. 5. Lay it out; the better ſort clover with the barley, and leave it for meadow.

1. Oats. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. One preparation is a ſlight burning of the furrows for wheat, after that wheat, they will ſow barley, and then ſeveral crops of oats. Alſo.

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Wheat. 4. Barley. 5. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Barley. 6. Lay out. The ſecond crop 10 barrels. Every houſe has a little patch of flax for making a little bandle cloth, but the quantity is not conſiderable.

The principal manure is a ſandy marle they raiſe in boats on the banks in the harbour at low water; it is of a blueiſh colour, very ſoapy, and ferments ſtrongly with acids: a boat load is 18 tons, and coſts 6 to 8s. a load. Moſt of it has ſhells. They lay it on for barley particularly, and get great crops, can in all ſee to an inch where ſpread. Sometimes

times it is laid on graſs, and the effect uncommonly great, bringing up a perfect carpeting of white clover wherever laid. They lay five or ſix loads an acre, and the land is for ever the better. They repeat it on the ſame land, and with great effect. They make compoſts of it with lime, and alſo hedge earth with good ſucceſs. Lime they uſe alſo; lay from 100 to 150 barrels roach to an acre, which has a very great effect. On the ſtiffer yellow clays it does better than ſand, but laid on all ſorts, and alſo on graſs land with good effect. Sea ſand they uſe for potatoes, but it does not laſt more than for that crop. Waterford dung, and ſtreet ſullage, 42s. the boat load of 18 tons. Clover has been introduced theſe 12 years; Mr. Bolton has ſown it for many years with very good effect, ſo that he never lays down land without it.

The dairies are generally ſet at 2l. 5s. The dairyman's privilege to 40 cows is a cow and horſe, and 2 acres and a cabbin, and he is allowed to rear one calf in ten; 100 acres to 40 cows; they do not keep any hogs on account of cows. Price of cows, average 4l. to 5l. They are engaged to give two pottles each on an average, putting all the milk together. Meadows let at 3l. to 4l. an acre for the hay.

There are few ſheep kept, no great flocks. The poor people plough with four horſes, ſometimes ſix: gentlemen generally with ſpayed heiffers or oxen. Land ſells at 19 and

20 years purchaſe; it did ſell at 23, and the fall has been owing to the failure of credit in 1771 and 1772.

Tythes, Potatoes, Wheat, Barley, and Oats, 5s. to 6s. Cows, 2d. Sheep, 6d.

The poor people ſpin their own flax, but not more, and a few of them wool for themſelves. Their food is potatoes and milk; but they have a conſiderable aſſiſtance from fiſh, particularly herrings; part of the year they have alſo barley, oaten, and rye bread. They are incomparably better off in every reſpect than twenty years ago. Their increaſe about Ballycanvan is very great, and tillage all over this neighbourhood is increaſed. The rent of a cabbin 10s. an acre with it 20s. The graſs of a cow a few years ago, 20s. now 25s. or 30s.

An exceeding good practice here in making their fences is, they plant the quick on the ſide of the bank in the common manner, and then, inſtead of the dead hedge we uſe in England on the top of the bank, they plant a row of old thorns, two or three feet high, which readily grow, and form at once a moſt excellent fence. Their way alſo of taking in ſand banks from the river deſerves notice: they ſtake down a row of furzes at low water, laying ſtones on them to the height of one or two feet; theſe retain the mud, which every tide brings in, ſo as to fill up all within the furze as high as their tops. I remarked on the ſtrand, that a few boat loads of ſtones laid careleſly, had had this effect, for within them I meaſured 12 inches deep of rich blue mud left behind them, the ſame as they uſe in manuring, full of ſhells and efferveſced ſtrongly with vinegar.

Among the poor people, the fiſhermen are in much the beſt circumſtances; the fiſhery is conſiderable; Waterford and its harbour have 50 boats each, from 8 to 12 tons, ſix men on an average to each, but to one of ſix ton, five men go. A boat of eight tons coſts 40l. one of twelve 60l. To each boat there is a train of nets of ſix pair, which coſts from 4l. 4s. to 6l. 6s. tan them with bark. Their only net fiſhery is that of herrings, which is commonly carried on by ſhares. The diviſion of the fiſh is, firſt, one fourth for the boat; and then the men and nets divide the reſt, the latter reckoned as three men. They reckon 10 maze of herrings an indifferent night's work; when there is a good take 40 maze have been taken, 20 a good night; the price per maze, from 1s. to 7s. average 5s. Their take, in 1775, the greateſt they have known, when they had more than they could diſpoſe of, and the whole town and country ſtunk of them, they retailed them 32 for 1d. 1773 and 1774 good years. They barrelled many; but in general there is an import of Swediſh. Beſides the common articles I have regiſtered, the following are, Pigeons, 1s. a couple. A hare, 1s.

Partridges, 9d. Turbets, fine ones, 4s. to 10s. Soals, a pair, large, 1s. 6d. to 1s. Lobſters, 3d. each. Oyſters, 6s. per hundred. Rabbits, 1s. to 1s. 4d. a couple. Cod, 1s. each, large Salmon, 1¼d. to 2d.

A very extraordinary circumſtance I was told, that within five or ſix years there has been much hay carried from Waterford to Norway, in the Norway ſhips that bring deals; as hay is dear here, it proves a moſt backward ſtate of huſbandry in that northerly region, ſince the neighbourhood of ſea-ports to which this hay can alone go, is generally the beſt improved in all countries.

Mr. Bolton has improved a great deal of waſte land, that was under furze, heath, and wood. He firſt grubs it, which coſts for the woody part, 3l. or 3l. 3s. and for the furze, 20s. Then levels all holes, &c. and clears it of rocks, at the expence of 20s. an acre. Upon this he dungs and plants potatoes in the trenching way upon a part, and upon the reſt fallows and limes it, and ſows wheat, 100 to 150 barrels an acre, produce ſeven to ten barrels an acre. Then ſand it for oats or barley, 15 barrels of barley, and 12 of oats. In this way he has done 300 acres, which was not worth more than 5s. an acre: now lets at 30s. In making this very noble improvement, he divided the land into well proportioned fields, and ſurrounded them with very noble fences; double ditches, with a parapet bank between,

planted

planted on both ſides with quick, and on the top with a double row of oak, elm, aſh, or fir; many of theſe were planted 36 years ago; they are now in very great perfection, ſo thick and fully grown as to be impervious to the ſight, and to take, when viewed at a diſtance, the appearance of ſpreading woods. Nothing could be done in a completer manner, and the quantity over more than 300 acres, uniting with many orchards planted at the ſame time, give his domain and its environs a richneſs of landſcape not common in Ireland. I could not help much admiring it when on the water, from ſome parts of the river the effect is very beautiful.

Mr. Bolton cannot be too much commended for the humane attention with which he encourages his poor cottar tenantry; he gives them all leaſes, whatever their religion, of 21 or 31 years, or lives: even the occupier of two acres has a leaſe. It is inconceivable what an effect this has had: this is the way to give the catholics right ideas. I was for three weeks a witneſs of a moſt ſpirited induſtry among them; every ſcrap of rough rocky land, not before improved, they were at work upon, and overcoming ſuch difficulties as are rarely to be found on common waſtes: many ſpots, not worth 5s. an acre, they were reclaiming to be well worth 25s. and 30s. The improvement of this part of Mr. Bolton's eſtate may be gueſſed at when I mention, that on only 500 acres of it, there have been built, in ſix years, 40 new houſes, many of them handſome ones of ſtone and ſlate. For cabbins, barns, &c. he gives timber for the roofs.

In 1751, Mr. Bolton being in England, where obſerving the cultivation of turnips for ſheep, he introduced them on his eſtate on his return, and had hurdles made for penning ſheep on them, and did it with much ſucceſs; after the ſame journey alſo, he introduced horſe-beans for feeding his horſes, mixed with oats: he did it for twenty years together, and with the greateſt ſucceſs. Turnip cabbage he has tried alſo for ſheep, and found them to do exceedingly well. One turnip cabbage ſown the beginning of April, and not tranſplanted, weighed 13lb. top and bottom. An experiment on carrots I viewed, of which Mr. Bolton, junior, has ſince favoured me with the following account.

" When you were here, I ſhewed you a few beds of carrots, which were pulled the beginning of this month; I meaſured the ground, and when the carrots were cleaned and topped, I ſaw them weighed. The ground meaſured fifteen perches, plantation meaſure, which produced 36 hundred and ſix ſtone of carrots, beſides allowing 4lb. to every hundred for dirt, though they were very clean and dry. The produce is 156 barrels, and 16 ſtones to an acre, (20 ſtones to the barrel) and beyond any thing I could have imagined; and I am certain, had the carrots been hoed and thinned as they ought, the product would have been much greater. The tops were given to pigs; they ſeemed to like them better than any thing elſe. Theſe fifteen perches are part of a field, which, in 1774, had been highly manured with dung for potatoes. In 1775, the roots of the weeds (of which there were a great quantity, particularly couch graſs and crow-foot) were burnt, and the aſhes and ſome blue ſand ſpread, and it was ſown with turnips. The latter end of March, theſe fifteen perches were dug, and about the 16th of April ſown with a pound of carrot-ſeed; they were twice hoed, to deſtroy the weeds which came up very thick."

In the winter of 1775, Mr. Bolton fed 10 working horſes on bull potatoes, twice a day on oats, and once on potatoes; the potatoes given always at night; the quantity to each horſe 1½ peck of ſmall ones; and at the other two feedings, half a peck each of oats. He found that they fattened the horſes very much, and did exceedingly well on them. Value of the potatoes, 3s. a barrel. The culture of rape and turnips has been tried in this neighbourhood alſo by Mr. James Wiſe, merchant, of Waterford.

In the beginning of June, 1774, Mr. Wyſe ploughed lightly with a winged plough, and burned the ſurface of near four acres of land, which had not been tilled for many years. He ſpread the aſhes, and manured the ground with

12 boat loads of the blue ſand, which is taken from the banks of the river at low water, each boat load containing 20 tons. Then ploughed and harrowed it once; and ſuch of the clods as were not thoroughly burnt and pulverized after harrowing, he turned with the graſſy ſide down to hinder their growing. About the middle of Auguſt he ſowed with rape; a little more than half a buſhel to an acre. It was cut the latter end of June, 1775, and produced 48 barrels, of ſixteen ſtones to the barrel, which ſold for 16s. per barrel, and the ſtraw to a tallow-chandler to burn for aſhes, for 48s. The ſtraw, or haulm of rape, is ſold for twelve-pence for each barrel of ſeed it produced. The beginning of July, 1775, Mr. Wyſe ploughed and harrowed the ground; about the 20th of July ſowed it with turnips, which on their coming up, were immediately deſtroyed by the fly. About the middle of Auguſt harrowed the ground, and ſowed turnips again, which were alſo deſtroyed by the fly. Mr. Wyſe imagines the great number of flies were occaſioned by the oilineſs and richneſs of the ground, (cauſed by the putrefaction of the leaves and bloſſoms of the rape) and the moiſture and warmth of the weather. About the middle of October, the graſs came up ſo rich and luxuriant, (though not ſown with graſs ſeed) that Mr. Wyſe would not ſuffer it to be ploughed for tillage, as he had intended. The latter end of June, 1776, mowed it, and it produced three tons of hay per acre; ſold for 34s. per ton. The ſand

and carriage of it coſt about thirty ſhillings per boat load; ploughing, burning, harrowing, ſowing, cutting, &c. about four guineas per acre. Rent of the land thirty ſhillings an acre. In 1775 Mr. Wyſe ploughed ſeven acres, which he prepared in the ſame manner (except ſanding) and ſowed it with rape; it grew very well till the great froſt and ſnow fell, which, was remarkably ſevere, and which injured it very much, together with the moiſture of the ground, occaſioned by ſprings in the land, and heavy rains, which ſucceeded the froſt and ſnow; the produce per acre, about half the quantity of the former year; ſold at the ſame price. Mr. Wyſe recommends narrow ridges for low moiſt ground. He thinks a large quantity of aſhes to be a chief means of enſuring a plentiful crop. The land does not require manure after rape for wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, &c. but will not anſwer for a ſecond crop of rape.

Mr. Bolton, junior, having mentioned a neighbour of his, who had drawn up a memoir upon making cyder, from conſiderable experience, at my requeſt wrote to him for a copy of it, which I have ſince received, with his permiſſion to inſert it in this work.

The following is an abridgment of the account.

" Let apples of every ſpecies hang till they are ripe, and begin to drop; let them be gathered perfectly dry, and if convenient in the heat of the day, when warmed in the ſun; when gathered let them lie in heaps for one, two, three, or four weeks, according to their degrees of firmneſs, ſo as to undergo a moderate fermentation; let the moiſture be carefully wiped off, and each ſpecies ſeparated (if the quantity of fruit in your orchard be ſufficient to admit it) and then ground in a mill, or pounded in troughs; but the firſt the beſt method, becauſe leſs of the pulp is broke, and the liquor will flow clearer from the bags; by preſſing the fruit of each diſtinct ſpecies ſo ſeparated, the cyder will undergo one uniform fermentation.

"When the fruit are ſufficiently broke for preſſing, let them lie forty-eight hours before they be preſſed; this will add to that deep richneſs of colour, which to the eye is pleaſing in cyder; then let the fruit ſo broke, having ſtood forty-eight hours, be preſſed in hair cloth bags; as the juice is thus preſſed out, let it be poured into large veſſels, uſually called keeves, to undergo the fermentation; three of theſe veſſels are neceſſary in every orchard, one to contain the liquor in its ſtate or courſe of fermentation, while a ſecond is filling from the preſs, and the third to contain the pummage before it be preſſed; three keeves, containing five or ſix hogſheads each, will ſerve for an orchard that yields ſixty or ſeventy hogſheads of cyder. The expence of theſe veſſels made of double boards, hooped with iron, or ſtrong aſh hoops, will not be very conſiderable; if the weather ſhould prove cold the fermenting keeves ſhould be covered with bags, &c. in order to quicken the fermentation, which will be compleated in ſix or ſeven days if the weather be temperate, provided no new or unfermented cyder be put into the keeve, which above all things ſhould be carefully avoided; when the fermentation is over, the liquor will be fine, and ſhould then be racked off into very clean hogſheads, ſmoaked with brimſtone matches; the hogſheads ſhould not be bunged or ſtopt cloſe till all ſymptoms of fermentation ceaſe; and in three weeks or a month it ſhould be a ſecond time racked, ſtill obſerving to ſmoak the hogſheads with brimſtone, then the hogſheads ſhould with the greateſt care be very cloſely ſtopped; the keeves muſt be entirely emptied before the new preſſed cyder is poured into them. The great ſecret in making good cyder, is to prevent or mitigate its fermentations, the firſt excepted; and nothing will ſo effectually do this, as repeated racking from the foul lee.

"Do not preſs wildings till Candlemas, or until they begin to rot; and when the juice is preſſed out, let it be boiled in a furnace for one hour, before it be ſuffered to work or ferment, and that will greatly ſoften the acrimony of its juice."

Mr. William Atkinſon, of Mount Wilkinſon, near Ballycanvan, ſeems to be very attentive to the orchard huſbandry; from two acres he had twenty-one hogſheads of cyder, and the ſame year reaped twenty barrels of wheat under the trees, a produce little ſhort of 50l. or 25l. an acre; three and an half barrels of his aples (each 6 buſhels) made a hogſhead of cyder. A common practice here in planting orchards, is to ſet cuttings, three or four feet long, half way in the ground, of the cackagee, jergonelle, or any ſet that grows rough and knotty in the wood; they call them *pitchers*, they rarely fail, and yield well and ſoon.

Mr. Bolton carried me to the houſes of ſome fiſhermen on the harbour, one of whom had planted around his cabbin for ſhelter, three years ago, ſome willow cuttings, the growth of which amazed me; I meaſured them 21 feet high, and not crooked or bending like common ſorts, but ſtrait as a fir. I took half a dozen cuttings with me to England to compare it with the ſorts common with us.

October 19th, the wind being fair, took my leave of Mr. Bolton, and went back to the ſhip; met with a freſh ſcene of provoking delays, ſo that it was the next morning, October 20th, at eight o'clock, before we ſailed, and then it was not wind, but a cargo of paſſengers that ſpread our ſails. Twelve or fourteen hours are not an uncommon paſſage, but ſuch was our luck, that after being in ſight of the lights on the ſmalls, we were by contrary winds blown oppoſite to Arklow ſands; a violent gale aroſe which preſently blew a ſtorm, that laſted thirty-ſix hours, in which, under a reefed mainſail, the ſhip drifted up and down wearing, in order to keep clear of the coaſts.

No wonder this appeared to me, a freſh-water ſailor, as a ſtorm, when the oldeſt men on board reckoned it a violent one; the wind blew in furious guſts; the waves ran very high; the cabbin windows burſt open, and the ſea pouring in ſet every thing afloat, and among the reſt a poor lady, who had ſpread her bed on the floor. We had however the ſatisfaction to find, by trying the pumps every watch, that the ſhip made little water. I had more time to attend theſe circumſtances than the reſt of the paſſengers, being the only one in ſeven who eſcaped without being ſick. It pleaſed God to preſerve us, but we did not caſt anchor in Milford Haven, till Tueſday morning the 22d, at one o'clock.

It is much to be wiſhed, that there were ſome means of being ſecure of packets ſailing regularly, inſtead of waiting till there is ſuch a number of paſſengers, as ſatisfies the owner, and captain; with the poſt-office packets there is this ſatisfaction, and a great one it is; the contrary conduct is ſo perfectly deteſtable, that I ſhould ſuppoſe the ſcheme of Waterford ones can never ſucceed.

Two years after, having been aſſured this conveyance was put on a new footing, I ventured to try it again; but was mortified to find that the Tyrone, the only one that could take a chaiſe or horſes, (the *Counteſs* being laid up) was repairing, but would ſail in five days; I waited, and received aſſurance after aſſurance that ſhe would be ready on ſuch a day, and then on another; in a word, I waited twenty-four days before I ſailed; moderately ſpeaking, I could, by Dublin, have reached Turin or Milan as ſoon as I did Milford in this conveyance. All this time the papers had conſtant advertiſements of the Tyrone ſailing regularly, inſtead of letting the public know that ſhe was under a repair. Her owner ſeems to be a fair and worthy man, he will therefore probably give up the ſcheme entirely, unleſs aſſiſted by the corporation, with at leaſt four ſhips more, to ſail regularly *with* or WITHOUT paſſengers; at preſent it is a general diſappointment; I was fortunate in Mr. Bolton's acquaintance, paſſing my time very agreeably at his hoſpitable manſion; but thoſe who, in ſuch a caſe, ſhould find a Waterford inn their reſource, would curſe the Tyrone, and ſet off for Dublin. The expences of this paſſage are higher than thoſe from Dublin to Holyhead: I paid,

A four-wheel chaiſe - -	3	3	0
Three horſes - - -	3	3	0
Self - - - -	1	1	0
Two ſervants - - -	1	1	0
Cuſtom-houſe at Waterford, hay, oats, &c.	2	1	7
Ditto at Pembroke and Hubberſton -	3	0	0
Sailors, boats, and ſundry ſmall charges -	1	15	5
	£. 15	5	0

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1777.

Upon a ſecond journey to Ireland this year, I took the opportunity of going from Dublin to Mitchelſtown, by a route through the central part of the kingdom which I had not before ſufficiently viewed.

Left Dublin the 24th of September, and taking the road to Naas, I was again ſtruck with the great population of the country, the cabbins being ſo much poorer in the vicinity of the capital than in the more diſtant parts of the kingdom. Mr. Nevill, at Furneſs, had, in a very obliging manner, given directions for my being well informed of the ſtate of that neighbourhood. He is a landlord remarkably attentive to the encouragement of his tenantry. He allows half the expenſe of building houſes on his eſtate, which has raiſed ſeven of ſtone and ſlate, and nine good cabbins, 35 by 16, at 27l. each. He gives annually three premiums of 7l. 5l. and 3l. for the greateſt number of trees, planted in proportion to the number of their acres, and pays the hearth money of all who plant trees. He alſo allows his tenants 40s. an acre for all the parts of their farm that want gravelling, and does the boundary fence for them, but he is paid in his rent very well for this. The following particulars I owe to him.

The ſoil in general, for ſome miles every way, is a lime-ſtone gravel, which does very well for wheat; lets at an average at 20s. that is, from 10s. to 40s. There are ſome tracts of green ſtone land, and a little clay. Rents roſe till 1772, but have ſince rather fallen: the the whole county through may be 14s. or 15s. If all now was to be let, it would be 20s.

Farms riſe from 15 acres to 500: a middling ſize is 250. They are now ſmaller than formerly, being divided as faſt as leaſes fall. There are houſes in general to all, the land lets the better for them, owing to its being a tillage country. Mr. Nevill encourages his tenantry to build, by being at half the expenſe. A common farmer requires one 50 feet long, 16 wide, two ſtories high; a barn, 40 by 16; a ſtable, 40 by 16; a cow-houſe, 50 by 14; a pig-ſtye, hen-houſe, &c. all which would coſt about 300l. of ſtone, the houſe ſlated, and would be ſufficient for 250 acres of land. The courſes of crops are;

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Wheat. 5. Clover. 6. Clover.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Fallow. 4. Wheat. 5. Clover. 6. Clover.

They ſometimes ſow wheat after potatoes; the crops are as great as after fallow; but the quality of the grain is not equal. Their fallow they plough firſt in winter; harrow in May, croſs plough in ditto and in June; ſtretch it (that is, form the ridges) in Auguſt, making them of two bouts; harrow, and the ſeed furrow, in September; and reckon the beſt ſeed time the middle of that month. No dung in general uſed for it, but ſometimes gravel. One barrel of ſeed to the acre; never weed the crop; the produce from five to twelve barrels, medium ſeven. Price of late years, 20s. a barrel. They threſh upon floors formed of lime, ſand, and coal aſhes, and are of opinion that they do not hurt the colour of the grain. At harveſt they do not reap till it is quite ripe, bind directly, and form it into ſtacks in the field, which they leave out a fortnight. Plough the potatoe land once or twice for barley, ſow a barrel an acre of 16 ſtone in April; medium price of late years from 7 to 12s. average 10s. Of clover they ſow 21lb. per acre, generally half clover and half trefoil; do not ſow it till the barley is up, buſh harrowing it; and on wheat *bull* harrow it, that is, with harrows without teeth. Never mow it. For oats they plough twice if able, ſow two barrels per acre in March; the produce ſix to twelve barrels, and ſometimes ſixteen. Medium price for a few years paſt 6s. 6d. Upon ſome grounds that are light, are ſubſtituted peaſe inſtead of oats after wheat. Plough but once, ſow 20 ſtone on an acre under furrow, never weed them; the produce ſix barrels per acre, and the price 10s. No flax ſown.

Potatoes generally on a wheat ſtubble, always well dunged; the ridge ſeven feet, and the trench three feet wide, and to one perch in length of it, four loads of dung. Ten ſacks, at twenty ſtone, plant an acre. March the beſt ſeaſon; weed them, and get 100 ſacks, at the medium price of 5s. the white Engliſh and apple ſorts the beſt. It is common for the poor to hire graſs land to plant them on, at 6l. to 6l. 6s. an acre or for ſtubble land dunged.

Account of an acre.

Planting - - -	2	0	0
Seed - - -	2	10	0
Weeding - - -	0	10	0
Digging out - - -	3	0	0
Rent - - -	6	0	0
	£. 14	0	0

PRODUCE.

One hundred ſacks, at 5s. - -	25	0	0
Expences - - -	14	0	0
Clear profit	£. 11	0	0

One hundred ſacks coſting 14l. gives the prime coſt of 2s. 9d. a ſack. They are often ſold as they grow, for 16l. or 18l. an acre. No turnips.

Lime not generally uſed, Mr. Nevil has a kiln that draws 16 barrels a day. Burns with culm, at 2s. 8d. a barrel. Pays for quarrying, 2d. and burning, 1d. The lime coſts him, at the kiln, 10d. a barrel. Lime-ſtone gravel more uſed, which laſts ſeven years, and on ſome ſoils longer: twelve loads on a ſquare perch may be done for 3l. an acre. Tillage is done with both horſes and oxen, and which is extraordinary, the latter are uſed by common farmers as well as gentlemen. Six oxen, or ſix horſes in ſummer to a plough, or four in winter, do about half an acre a day. In the croſs ploughing, which is the ſecond, they go nine inches deep, at other times ſhallower, price per acre, with harrowing, 10s. 6d. They do not begin to mow their hay till July, get it into the large field cock in about a fortnight, which they leave out three or four weeks longer; a medium crop 12 loads an acre, at the average price of 5s. 6d.

It is generally a corn country, yet are there ſome graziers that buy in bullocks, but more cows. Alſo ſome dairies that fatten veal for Dublin, by which they make 3l. or 4l. a cow; feeding them in winter when dry on ſtraw, ſome on hay. They are let out to dairymen at 4l. a cow. The price of milch cows, in May, 5l. to 7l. One acre and a half will ſummer feed one, and half an acre of hay for winter.

The ſheep kept are generally ewe flocks for fattening, for Dublin market. Buy in at Ballinaſloe, at 10s. to 15s. Sell the lamb in June or July, at 8s. to 14s. and the ewe in November, at the ſame price they gave, keep them chiefly on clover. No folding. Medium price of wool, for 10 years paſt, 16s. clip three to a ſtone. They are not at all ſubject to the rot. A great many hogs bred; keep them for fattening on potatoes; ſome are finiſhed with offal corn and peaſe; in ſummer they feed them on clover. Mark this! one would think from more than one circumſtance, that a good farmer in England was ſpeaking.

In hiring and ſtocking a farm of 200 acres, a man ought to employ 500l. but ſome of them will do it with 200l. Stock for 200 acres to have 100 acres corn, and fallow every year.

Twenty horſes, at 6l. and ten bullocks, at 5l.				170	0	0
Six cows, at 5l.				30	0	0
Two ſows				2	10	0
Six ploughs, at 13s.				3	18	0
Three ſets of geers				3	0	0
Six Cars, at 25s.				7	10	
Sundry tools, &c.				10	0	0
Seed 40 acres wheat	40	0	0			
20 oats	13	0	0			
4 barley	2	0	0			
1 potatoes	2	10	0			
10 clover	5	0	0			
				62	10	0
For labour he will have three cottars for ploughing, &c. paid by land; for other work allow				40	0	0
County ceſs, 4d. an acre				3	10	0
Tythe, 40 wheat, 6s.	12	0	0			
20 oats 4s.	4	0	0			
4 barley 6s.	1	4	0			
10 hay 4s.	2	0	0			
				19	4	0
				£.352	2	0

In reſpect of labour, every farmer has as many cottars as ploughs, whom they pay with a cabbin, and one acre of potatoes, reckoned at 30s. and a cow kept thro' the year, 30s. more. Every cabbin has one or more cows, a pig, and ſome poultry. Their circumſtances juſt the ſame as 20 years ago. Their food potatoes and milk for 9 months of the year; the other three wheaten bread, and as much butter as the cow gives. They like the potatoe fare beſt. Some have herrings; and others 6s. to 10s. worth of beef at Chriſtmas. Sell their poultry, but many of them eat their pig. The ſale of the fowls buys a few pounds of flax for ſpinning, moſt of them having ſome of that employment.

They are not much given to thieving, except buſhes and furze, which is all they have for fuel, there being no bog nearer than that of Allen. They bring turf eight and ten miles, the price 8d. a kiſh of three feet and a half, by three and five long, and 1s. 2d. more carriage. A kiſh will laſt one common fire five days.

Expence of building a cabbin.

Mud walls	2	0	0
Roof, 3 pair principals	0	9	0
4 dozen of rubberies, at 4s.	0	16	0
Labour	0	4	0
Wattles	0	6	0
Eight load of ſtraw, 5s.	2	0	0
Thatching	0	8	0
Two doors	0	8	0
	£.6	11	0
Maſon's perch of a wall	0	3	0

Women are paid 5d. a day, earn by ſpinning, 3d. A farming-man, 5l. 10s. a year. A lad, 1l. 10s. A maid, 2l. to 2l. 10s. Reaping

ing, 6s. 6d. Mowing graſs, 2s. 6d. to 3s. Pigeons, 3d. each. Rabbits, 8d. a couple.

To Kildare, croſſing the Curragh, ſo famous for its turf. It is a ſheep walk of above 4000 Engliſh acres, forming a more beautiful lawn than the hand of art ever made. Nothing can exceed the extreme ſoftneſs of the turf, which is of a verdure that charms the eye, and highly ſet off by the gentle inequality of ſurface. The ſoil is a fine dry loam on a ſtony bottom; it is fed by many large flocks, turned on it by the occupiers of the adjacent farms, who alone have the right, and pay very great rents on that account. It is the only conſiderable common in the kingdom. The ſheep yield very little wool, not more than 3lb. per fleece, but of a very fine quality.

From Furneſs to Shaen Caſtle, in the Queen's County, Dean Coote's; but as the huſbandry, &c. of this neighbourhood is already regiſtered, I have only to obſerve, that Mr. Coote was ſo kind as to ſhew me the improved grounds of Dawſon's Court, the ſeat of Lord Carlow, which I had not ſeen before. The principal beauties of the place are the well grown and extenſive plantations, which form a ſhade not often met with in Ireland. There is in the back grounds a lake well accompanied with wood, broken by ſeveral iſlands that are covered with underwood and an ornamented walk paſſing on the banks, which leads from the houſe. This lake is in the ſeaſon perfectly alive with wild fowl; near it is a very beautiful ſpot, which commands a view of both woods and water, a ſituation either for a houſe or a temple. Mr. Dawſon is adding to the plantations, an employment of all others the moſt meritorious in Ireland. Another work ſcarcely leſs ſo, was the erecting a large handſome inn, wherein the ſame gentleman intends eſtabliſhing a perſon who ſhall be able to ſupply travellers, poſt, with either chaiſes or horſes.

From Shaen Caſtle to Gloſter, in the King's County, the ſeat of John Lloyd, Eſq; member for that county, to whoſe attention I owe the following particulars, in which he took every means to have me well and accurately informed. But firſt let me obſerve, that I was much pleaſed to remark, all the way from Naas quite to Roſſcrea, that the country was amongſt the fineſt I had ſeen in Ireland, and conſequently that I was fortunate in having an opportunity of ſeeing it after the involuntary omiſſion of laſt year. The cabbins, though many of them are very bad, yet are better than in ſome other counties, and chimnies generally a part of them. The people too have no very miſerable appearance; the breed of cattle and ſheep good, and the hogs much the beſt I have any where ſeen in Ireland. Turf is every where at hand, and in plenty; yet are the bogs not ſo general as to affect the beauty of the country, which is very great in many tracts, with a ſcattering of wood, which makes it pleaſing.

Shaen Caſtle ſtands in the midſt of a very fine tract. From Mountrath to Gloſter, Mr. Lloyd's, I could have imagined myſelf in a very pleaſing part of England; the country breaks into a variety of inequalities of hill and dale; it is all well incloſed, with fine hedges; there is a plenty of wood, not ſo monopoliſed as in many parts of the kingdom by here and there a ſolitary ſeat, but ſpread over the whole face of the proſpect: look which way you will, it is cultivated and chearful.

The King's county contains the following baronies, and annexed to their names is the value per acre of each:

Clonliſk	0	15	0
Ballibrit	0	15	0
Egliſh	0	13	0
Balliboy	0	10	0
Garrycaſtle	0	13	0
Gaſhill	0	12	0
Cooleſtown	1	0	0
Warrenſtown	1	5	0
Ballicowen	0	11	0
Kilcourſy	0	16	0
Upper and Lower Philip's town	£. 0	15	0

In Gaſhill are 13000 acres belonging to Lord Digby; and in Warrenſtown is Croghen hill, famous for the great fleeces the ſheep yield that are fed upon it. A Curragh ſheep, from giving 3lb. carried there, will yield 12lb. but the quality is coarſe.

There are great tracts of bog in the county; and 153,000 acres that pay county charges; 170,000 acres at 15s. and 30,000 of bog. The riſe of rents ſince 1750, more than two-thirds, but are much fallen ſince 1772, in many farms 4s. in the pound.

Eſtates through the county are remarkably divided; and are in general ſmall. The ſize of farms varies much, 600 acres are a very large one; uſually not leſs than 100; very few in partnerſhip. There are many farms without buildings, which if divided and built, would let much better. The arable ſyſtem, when burning is permitted, is to plough in the ſpring, very thin, then croſs cut it and burn the ſod as ſoon as the ſeaſon ſerves, which will be ſome time in June; plough in the aſhes very lightly, and ſow turnips; theſe they never hoe, which is ſaid to be difficult, on account of the number of ſtones; they feed the crop on the land with three-year old wethers or lambs. After this, plough it up and fallow for a ſecond crop of turnips, which they manage as the firſt, but feed them earlier; then plough once, and ſet it to the poor for potatoes, at 6l. 6s. to 6l. 10s. an acre, after which they ſow bere upon one ploughing; this they ſucceed with wheat alſo on one ploughing; and after the wheat, oats. Then they ſummer and winter fallow, which is followed by wheat and oats as before; but by this time the land is quite exhauſted. A partial burning is ſometimes uſed, which is to break up in November, and plough twice or thrice by May, and then to burn what the harrow does not reduce. For wheat they plough once, as before-mentioned in the burning courſe; and four times on a fallow. Sow 20 ſtone to an acre; the crop five to ſix and a half barrels; the medium price of late 1l. 1s. a barrel. They ſow a barrel of bere, of ſixteen ſtone, the crop 14 to 23 barrels, which great produce is from the rich preparation. Of oats two barrels, or 24 ſtone, the crop 10 to 16; of barley they ſow 16 ſtone, the crop 10 to 16. The price of bere and barley 9s. 6d. No clover at all ſown, nor any graſs ſeeds, and very few peaſe or beans, as they never feed their pigs or horſes with either. Very little flax. There are a few bleach yards about Clara, &c. but the buſineſs is not much upon the increaſe. Potatoes they plant in the common trenching way; the ſeaſon from the middle of April to the middle of May; more after the firſt of May than before it; eight barrels plant an acre; they always weed them. The apple ſort is preferred from laſting longeſt; the medium price 2d. a ſtone; twenty ſtone the barrel.

Account of an acre.

Planting, 48 men, the firſt and ſecond trenching at 8d. - - - -	1	12	0
Seed, at 3s. 4d. - - -	1	6	6
Taking up, 48 men - - -	1	12	0
Picking up, carrying home, and ſorting; horſe-hire only, as the family does the reſt -	0	8	8
Rent - - -	6	6	0
	11	5	2

PRODUCE.

100 barrels, at 3s. 4d.		16	13	4
Expences		11	5	2
Profit	£.	5	8	2

Prime coſt, 2s. 3d. a barrel. A barrel will laſt a family of five perſons a week.

The turnips on the burnt land they ſow from the 20th of July to the 4th of Auguſt, but a fortnight or three weeks earlier upon a fallow, the quantity of ſeed 1½lb. they never hoe; the price upon an average 3l. an acre, either to take away or feed on the land, but the former rarely done: they feed them off with fat ſheep or lambs, very rarely with black cattle.

No lime burnt for manure, nor any limeſtone gravel uſed, though plenty of it found all the country through. One farmer made an experiment of them both for corn, but neither anſwered; the general opinion is, its being bad for the graſs afterwards; there is not any marle known; the farm-yard ſyſtem incomplete, as every where elſe, foddering in the fields; but cows are kept in the houſe at night, and fed with hay for about five months in the winter. Their hay grounds they wiſh to ſhut up about the 25th of March, but if their hay is finiſhed, they are obliged to be later; mow from the 15th of July to the 15th of September, which lateneſs is owing to their feeding ſo late in the ſpring. They uſually upon the average of weather, and management, get it into the large cock in about ten days, and leave it in that from one to two months; the medium produce per acre, two tons and a quarter, and the price 30s. a ton; the women here never make it.

Tillage is performed more with horſes than with horned cattle; the latter only by conſiderable graziers, and they are uſually ſpayed heifers. Four horſes, or four heifers to a plough, which do half an acre a day; the depth, from the ſhallowneſs of the ſoil, not more than ſix or ſeven inches; the price 7s. 6d. an acre. Very few hogs kept, not more than for mere convenience.

To hire and ſtock a farm will, on an average, take 40s. an acre, if a grazing one, but leſs in proportion to the tillage; but there are men who will hire on little or no capital, this however is much leſs than formerly, from ſeveral landlords having ſuffered ſeverely from it. The tillage of the whole country is very inconſiderable; it is chiefly paſturage, not one acre in fifteen is tilled; the barony of Garrey caſtle has much more; one reaſon of there not being more, is the number of farms, from 150 to 400 acres, under leaſes for ever, which are ſo highly improved by the tenants, that they abſtain from tillage, under the idea of its being prejudicial. Reſpecting the labour of a farm, the ſtanding buſineſs is done by cottars; a cottar is one who has a cabbin, and an acre and a half of garden, charged at 30s. and the graſs of one or two cows, at 25s. each, and the daily pay 6d. the year through, the account being kept by tallies, and thoſe charges deducted; the year's labour amounts to about 6l. after the cottar's time for his potatoes and turf is deducted; the remaining 40s. is paid in money, hay, or any thing elſe the man wants. The cows are fed by a field being aſſigned for all the cottars of the farm. No inſtance of a cottar without a cow. The calves they rear till half a year old, and then ſell them at 12s. to 20s. which will pay for the cow's hay. They keep no ſheep, but every cabbin has a pig, a dog, and ſome poultry. No difference in their circumſtances for the laſt fifteen years. It is here thought that it would be very difficult to nurſe up a race of little farmers from the cottars, by adding land gradually to them at a fair rent; it would be alſo very difficult, if not impoſſible, to cut off the cottars from a farm; nobody would be troubled with ſuch tenants, and no farmer would hire a farm with the poor on it independant of him, their cattle and all their property would be in conſtant danger; as the kingdom increaſes in proſperity, ſuch ideas it is to be hoped will vaniſh. Their food is potatoes and milk for ten months, and potatoes and ſalt the remaining two; they have however a little butter. They ſell their pig, their calf, and their poultry, nor do they buy meat for more than ten Sunday's in a year. Their fuel coſts them about 14s. a year, or eighty kiſh of turf, an ample allowance. There is in every cabbin, a ſpinning-wheel, which is uſed by the women at leiſure hours, or by a grown girl, but for twelve years 19 in 20 of them breed every ſecond year. Vive le pomme de Tere!

Expence of a poor family.

Cabbin and garden - -	1	10	0
Labour in the garden - -	1	10	0
Two Cows - - -	2	10	0
Hay for ditto - - -	1	10	0
Turf - - -	0	14	0
Cloathing, 15s. a head - -	3	15	0
Tools - - -	0	5	0
Hearth tax - - -	0	2	0
	11	16	0

The Receipt.

The year - -		365 days			
Deduct Sundays -	52				
Bad weather -	30				
Holydays -	10				
		92			
		273 at 6d.	6	16	6
Two calves -	1 10 0				
Pig - -	1 0 0				
Poultry -	0 5 0				
			2	15	0
Carried over			£. 9	11	6
			303 days		

Brought over	£.9	11	6
303 days ſpinning between the wife and daughter at 3d.	3	15	3
	13	6	9
Expences	11	16	0
Remains for whiſky, &c. &c.	£. 1	10	9

Potatoes are much more the food than formerly; there are full twice as many planted. The cottars in their gardens follow the courſe of crops firſt mentioned. They are all very much addicted to pilfering: their general character idleneſs and dirtineſs, and want of attention. They are remarkable for a moſt inviolable honour in never betraying each other, or even any body elſe, which reſults from a general contempt of order and law, and a want of fear of every thing but a cudgel, the reader will remember that maiming cattle, pulling down, and ſcattering ſtacks, and burning the houſes of thoſe who take lands over their heads, are very well known. I am regiſtering information, and that not from one or two perſons, but ſeveral.

The paſturage ſyſtem is to buy in yearling calves, called *bull chins*, at from 35s. to 55s. (but twenty years ago, 22s. 9d. each), which they generally ſell at Banagher fair, when three years and an half, at 5l. 10s. to 6l. buying and ſelling regularly every year. They alſo buy cows in May, and ſell them fat in autumn,

tumn, with 40s. profit. Sheep they either breed, or buy *hoggits* in May, at 12s. to 15s. each in the fleece, and ſell them fat, at three years and an half old, from 1l. 1s. to 1l. 4s. each; they get three fleeces, worth 18s. the profit 10s. a head, keeping them three ſummers and two winters. No folding. Flocks riſe from 100 to 2000, they calculate to keep a ſheep to every acre of their farms. The fleeces, on an average of a running ſtock, are three to a ſtone of 16 lb. The price, this year, 17s. 6d. twenty years ago only 9s. or 10s. Not much alteration in the number of ſheep through the country; all fat ones, are in winter fed with turnips and a little hay. Their low lands rot; but being more careful than formerly, it is not ſo common as it was; that, with the *gid*, (a ſudden giddineſs) and the red water, are the chief diſtempers they are troubled with.

Milch cows are kept only for convenience, a few to every farm. An acre and half neceſſary to keep one the year through, but muſt have 1¼ ton of hay beſides. One four or five years old ready for milk in the ſpring, ſells for five or ſix guineas. A three years old heifer ready to calve, four or five guineas.

The bounty on the inland carriage of flour to Dublin has occaſioned the building ſeveral mills, five conſiderable ones, four were immediately built in conſequence. The quantity of tillage has increaſed double in 20 years;

probably from this cauſe, among others, has ariſen the increaſe of whiſky, the quantity of which is three times greater than fifteen years ago. Not leſs than 30,000 barrels of barley and bere are diſtilled yearly within 8 miles of Gloſter.

Land ſells at 25 years purchaſe. Suppoſe ſix farms, one let for ever, at 20 years purchaſe, one for three lives, let 20 years ago, 25—one for two lives, ditto 28 --- one for one life, ditto 30 --- one for 31 years, 30 --- one to let now, 20. Average of all, 25 years. Ten years ago it would have been twenty-ſix and a half; twenty years ago, twenty-three and a half. Leaſes are generally for three lives, or thirty-one years.

The country in general is much improved in moſt national circumſtances; buildings are much increaſed, on a larger ſcale, and of a far better ſort than twenty years ago; there is alſo a riſe in the price of almoſt all commodities.

Prices not minuted in the table.

Rabbits, 8d. a couple. Roaſting pigs, 2s. 6d. much beyond the proportion of other things. Riſe in the price of meat, 1d. a lb. in twenty years, ſince which bere has alſo advanced, from 6s. to 9s. 6d. the barrel of 16 ſtone. Womens labour, 4d. Wages of a farming man, 4l. ditto a boy, 1l. ditto a maid, 2l. From 10

to

to 14 men reap an acre of corn in a day. Mowing graſs, by the acre, 2s. 8½d. two men do it in a day. Threſhing wheat, 6d. a barrel. Bere, 4d. Oats, 3d. Cutting turf, footing, &c. 12s. the 120 kiſh.

BUILDING.

A common cabbin, 5l. Ditto of ſtone, 10l. to 15l.

Walling, maſon's perch work	0	0	7
One barrel lime	0	0	6
Seven load ſtone	0	1	1
Attendance	0	0	2
Sand and carriage	0	1	0
	0	3	4
Feet high			5
	£.0	16	8

A guinea a perch, 7 feet, 6 inches high. Slates, 9s. 6d. a thouſand. Slating, 1l. 2s. 9d. a ſquare, every thing included. Oak, 1s. 3d. a foot. Aſh and home fir, 1s. Lime, fivepence halfpenny a barrel, burnt, with turf in kilns on arches; two arches burn 400 barrels, the ſtone large. 400 kiſh of turf will burn 400 barrels; price of burning and filling from 2l. 5s. 6d. to a guinea and half.

September 30th, took my leave of Mr. Lloyd, a gentleman from whoſe converſation I reaped equal inſtruction and amuſement. Paſſed by

Shinroan, Murderinny, and Graig, to Johnſtown, the ſeat of Peter Holmes, Eſq; Much of this line a very beautiful country; near Johnſtown nothing can be more picturesque, the whole well planted with hedges and little woods, and conſiſting of the moſt fanciful variety of hill, dale, and ſwelling declivities, upon which every buſh and tree is ſeen to advantage.

For the following particulars I am indebted to Mr. Holmes, who, notwithſtanding his own ability to anſwer every queſtion, truſted not to it, but called in the beſt aſſiſtance the neighbourhood could give.

Baronies in the county of Tipperary.

Lower Ormond, 20s. an acre.—Upper Ormond, 20s.—Skevin, 18s.—Eliogurty, 20s. Owen and Aira, 12s.—Clanwilliam, 1l. 2s. 9d. Middle third, 25s. Beſides Iffa, Offa, and Kilnemanna. The whole county on an average would now let for 20s. an acre. Rents have doubled in twenty years.

Through the whole barony of Lower Ormond, the ſoil is in general a dry lime-ſtone land. Farms are large, ſome very large, few leſs than 5 or 600 acres: the ſize is rather increaſed. There are many without any buildings, and it is only from particular circumſtances that they let the better for them. The ſmall farms are taken much in partnerſhip; a parcel of labourers will take 1 or 200 acres. The common courſe of tillage is,

1. Pare, and burn for turnips. 2. Turnips. 3. Potatoes. 4. Bere. 5. Wheat. 6. Oats. 7. Grey peaſe. 8. Fallow. 9. Wheat. 10. Oats. 11. Lay out for graſs quite exhauſted. Alſo,

1. Fallow turnips from the turf. 2. Turnips, and then as before.

The management is to plough the ſod at Chriſtmas, in April or May croſs plough it, and let it dry, burn as ſoon as dry, which will be ſometimes in May; ſpread the aſhes, plough once, and harrow in a pound and a half or two pounds of ſeed to the acre, from the 20th of June to the 4th of Auguſt. They never either hoe or weed. Begin to feed them upon the land in December with fat ſheep, giving three or four acres at a time to 2 or 300 ſheep; and one acre to 100 ſheep, giving them at the ſame time hay in ſheep racks: a middling acre will keep 13 from Chriſtmas to the firſt of April, being worth from two guineas to 3l. They are alſo commonly uſed for ſheep and lambs in March and April. The profit upon fat ſheep, from turnips only, will amount to from 7s. to 10s. a head. The land is ploughed three times for the ſecond crop; but the turnips are not ſo ſweet for ſheep as the firſt, yet they ſell as well: they muſt be eaten off firſt, as they will not ſtand ſo long as the others.

The poor people hire this turnip land at ſix guineas to 7l. 10s. for planting potatoes. About ten years ago the price was four guineas to 5l. but the reſtrictions on paring and burning have leſſened the quantity of it. For this potatoe crop one ploughing is given in March or April, ſix to eight barrels of ſeed planted; the favourite ſorts are the apple potatoe for late, and the early wiſe for early uſe. They hand weed them carefully, and take them up the middle of November or beginning of December, the average crop 90 barrels.

Expences on an acre.

Rent	6	16	6
Seven barrels of ſeed, at 4s.	1	8	0
Planting, thirty men a day	0	16	0
Taking up, eighty men a day	2	0	0
	11	0	6

PRODUCE.

Ninety barrels, at 4s.	18	0	0
Expenſes	11	0	6
Profit	£.6	19	6

Prime coſt, 2s. 5d. a barrel.

The culture has increaſed very much, and been the means of reclaiming great tracts of land, which otherwiſe would never have been touched. The potatoe land they plough immediately for bere, and, if weather dry enough, ſow 14 ſtone per acre, and get 16 barrels. For the wheat they plough thrice; ſow in November 14 ſtone, and get 7 barrels.

It was in this neighbourhood Mr. Yelverton had his famous crop, which has been written ſo often in all the books of huſbandry in Europe, but nobody here believed it. The account I had was this: that he ſelected the beſt acre in a field of 30, which he marked out; but his labourers knowing his intention, put many ſtocks from the adjacent parts of the field into that acre. Thus without any intentional deceit in the gentleman himſelf was the public completely deceived. From hence it appears, there was ſome reaſon in my propoſing to the London ſociety, to annex to their premiums for the greateſt crops, the condition of reaping, threſhing, and meaſuring all in one day, and in the preſence of witneſſes which they adopted much againſt the opinion of ſeveral gentlemen who did not approve it.

For the oats they plough once, ſow two barrels in March, and get on an average from 10 to 14. For the peaſe, they plough once, ſow twenty ſtone broad caſt, are ſo far from hoeing or weeding, that *they like to have weeds among them, by way of ſticks!* get ſix or ſeven barrels an acre. The ſucceeding fallow is ploughed four times, the crop of wheat as good as after bere, but the following oats will not yield above eight or nine barrels.

The medium prices of the preceding products have of late years been, Wheat, 20s. Bere, 10s. Oats, 5. Peaſe, 6s. There are very few threſhing floors of wood: but they make the clay ones ſo hard, that they think them as good. Flax is ſown only by the cottars in their gardens; very few that do not ſow ſome. Six pottles of ſeed on about four perch of land. They proportion it very exactly to their own conſumption; it is wove by weavers, who make it their buſineſs to weave for others; and there are very few gentlemen that do not do the ſame for the coarſe linen of their families.

Marle and lime-ſtone ſand are the manures uſed here. They have two ways of improving waſte land with marle: they plough and ſow oats, and marle the ſtubble: or elſe they marle at firſt upon the lay: this is moſtly practiſed in the Duharrow mountains, where it has worked very great improvements. It is a grey ſoapy marle, full of ſhells, dredged from the bottom of the Shannon. The expenſe of getting it, with boats and carriage into the land, is 40s. an acre. Lime-ſtone ſand is laid on at the end of an exhauſting courſe, on the oat ſtubble: it coſts about 50s. an acre. Very little lime uſed. No farm-yards; the hay is ſtacked in the fields where it is deſigned to be fed, and ſcattered about; and ſhame on them, they do the ſame with their ſtraw; but no wonder the farm-yard ſyſtem is unknown, for they ſell much of their corn in the ſtack in the field, which gentlemen buy for ſtraw. Great improvements have been made in the Duharrow mountains, inſomuch that the tythes of one pariſh have riſen from 70l. a year to 400l.

The ſheep in the Ormond baronies are kept chiefly for breeding; they do not ſell the lambs till they become three years old wethers; give the ewes the ram at two years old, which ſupply the place of the old ewes, culled out and fattened at four years old, going five. In 170 there are 50 ewes, 40 lambs, 40 two-year olds, 20 three year old wethers ſold, 20 ewes kept, and 20 old ones ſold. Ten are kept for accidents. The fat wethers ſell at 20s. from graſs, and 30s. from turnips; and the 20 culled ewes will ſell at 20s. each; the wool of the whole, three fleeces to a ſtone. Mr. Robert Gowen has ſold a ſcore of four-year old wethers at Dublin, for 59l. Their black cattle are in the ſucceſſion way. To 1000 acres, beſides 1500 ſheep, they will buy in 180 year-old calves every year, at 45s. bought in from May to September, the right time May and June; they keep them two years and an half, ſelling them in November, at 6l. to 8l. allowing three for loſſes, there would be

177 calves, 177 two-year olds, 177 three-year olds—531.

Alſo upon 1000 acres there would be two breeding mares, and ſix colts, ten working heifers, 4 car horſes, and ten milch cows; there would alſo be 100 acres of 1000, in tillage, ten of which under turnips every year, and fifty acres of hay mown; an inſtance out of thouſands how little attention in Ireland is paid to providing a due quantity of winter food.

Mr. William Harden, thirty-two years ago, ſold wool at 6s. 6d. a ſtone; it roſe gradually for ten years to 10s. 6d. and did not get up to 15s. till about four years ago; but the price was very fluctuating, riſing and falling ſuddenly without any evident reaſon; the weight of the fleeces have not increaſed in thirty years, but the number of ſheep is greater; turnips were commonly ſown at that time. In black cattle however, there has been a great improvement, being much larger than formerly. Calves have riſen in price as much as wool, ſuch as now coſt 45s. might, thirty years ago, have been had at 20s. Mr. Harden's father bought a two-year old bullock for 5s. of a man now alive.

In tillage, bullocks and heifers are generally uſed, four in a plough, and they do not quite half an acre a day. Three ploughs will do an acre; they ſtir five inches deep. The price 6s. Paring and burning take from twelve to forty men per acre, according to the dryneſs of the ſeaſon.

Labour is done by cottars, who have a cabbin and a garden of one acre, if only one man in family, but if the ſon is grown, two acres. The cabbin and one acre is reckoned at 20s. alſo two collops, at 20s. each, which are generally cows. All this he works out at five pence a day, all extra labour ſix-pence halfpenny a day, and eight pence in harveſt. They all have from one to three pigs, and much poultry. Their food is potatoes for at leaſt eleven months of the year, and one month of oat, barley or bere bread.

Expences and receipt of a cottar family.

Cabbin, and one acre rent	1	0	0
Two cows	2	0	0
One ſtone of broken wool	0	14	0
Weaving it	0	3	0
Weaving their linen	0	3	0
Hearth money	0	2	0
Tools	0	5	0
Tythe of one acre	0	5	0
Hire of half an acre potatoes	3	8	0
	£. 8	0	0

Receipt.

Two Pigs	2	0	
On an average of years the two cows will yield three calves in two years	2	0	0

Poultry

Brought over		£.4	0	0
Poultry		0	15	0
Hire	365 days			
	52 ſundays			
	15 holydays			
	20 bad weather			
	48 ſickneſs and their own work			
	135			
	230 at 5d.	4	16	0
		9	11	0
Expences		8	0	0
Remains for unſpecified articles		£.1	11	0

It is a general remark, that induſtrious and attentive men will earn 5l. in the year. The circumſtances of the poor are much better than they were twenty years ago, for their land and cabbins are not charged to them *by gentlemen* higher than they were 30 years ago, while all they ſell bears double the price.

Potatoes are rather more cultivated and eaten than twenty years ago, and are managed better. The poor in this neighbourhood are by no means to be accuſed of a general ſpirit of thieving. It ariſes from holding them in too much contempt, or from the improper treatment of their ſuperiors. No white boys have ever ariſen in theſe baronies, nor any riots that laſt longer than a drunken bout at a fair: nothing that has obſtructed the execution of juſtice.

There is no objection to cutting off the cottars from a farm, and making them tenants to the landlord, upon the ſcore of difficulty in letting a farm without cottars upon it, provided they were kept perfectly diſtinct by a good fence. Nor is there any doubt but out of them a race of little farmers might be gradually formed.

Land at improved rents ſells at 20 years purchaſe. Rents are doubled in 20 years; they are not fallen ſince 1772. Leaſes are uſually for three lives, or thirty-one years.

The intereſt of money has certainly riſen, and the year's purchaſe of land fallen in twenty years; yet in the ſame period it is undoubted that the kingdom has improved greatly, which has the appearance of a contradiction. Buildings have very much increaſed in all the towns, and in a ſtile far ſuperior to former periods.

Tythes are very rarely taken in kind. Bere and wheat pay 6s. an acre. Barley and oats, 3s. Potatoes, 6s. They are generally let to proctors, who are ſevere to the poor, and very indulgent to gentlemen. The rigour, however, does not extend beyond thoſe prices.

The bounty on the inland carriage of corn has occaſioned the building ſome mills, which united with the turnip huſbandry, and the vaſt increaſe of whiſky have altogether much increaſed tillage.

Prices not in the tables.

Labour of a woman or boy in harveſt, 4d. Mowing graſs, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. Hire of a car, a day, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. Building a cabbin of ſtone and ſlate, 25l. Walling the maſon's perch, 4s. Lime, per barrel, ſevenpence halfpenny; at Nenagh, 1s. Culm, per barrel, 3s. one burns nine of lime, in ſome places only ſix.

Quarrying the ſtones	0	0	0½
Breaking and burning	0	0	3
Culm	0	0	4
	£. 0	0	7½

Oak timber, 50s. to 3l. a ton. Fir, 40s.

Wild fowl.——Wild ducks, 1s. 6d. a couple. Teal, 9d. ditto. Widgeon, 6d. ditto. Rabbits, 8d. ditto. Trout 5lb. for 1s. Salmon, 2d. per lb. Freſh water fiſh in general, 2½d. a lb. Oyſters, 2s. per 120.

The Shannon adds not a little to the convenience and agreeableneſs of a reſidence ſo near it. Beſides affording theſe ſorts of wild fowl, the quantity and ſize of its fiſh are amazing. Pikes ſwarm in it, and riſe in weight to 50lb. In the little flat ſpaces on its banks are ſmall but deep lochs, which are covered in winter and in floods; when the river withdraws, it leaves plenty of fiſh in them, which are caught to put into ſtews. Mr. Holmes has a ſmall one before his door at Johnſtown, with a little ſtream which feeds it; a trowling rod here gets you a bite in a moment, of a pike from 20 to 40lb. I eat of one of 27lb. ſo taken; I had alſo the pleaſure of ſeeing a fiſherman bringing three trouts, weighing 14lb. and ſell them for ſix-pence halfpenny a piece. A couple of boats lying at anchor, with lines extended from one to the other, and hooks in plenty from them, have been known to catch an incredible quantity of trout. Colonel Prittie, in one morning, caught four ſtone, odd pounds, thirty-two trouts: in general they riſe from 3 to 9lb. Perch ſwarm; they appeared in the Shannon for the firſt time about ten years ago, in ſuch plenty that the poor lived on them. Bream of 6lb. Eels very plentiful. There are many gillaroos in the river, one of 12lb. weight was ſent to Mr. Jenkinſon. Upon the whole, theſe circumſtances, with the pleaſure of ſhooting and boating on the river, added to the glorious view it yields, and which is enough at any time to chear the mind, render this neighbourhood one of the moſt enviable ſituations to live in that I have ſeen in Ireland. The face of the country gives every circumſtance of beauty. From Killodeernan-hill, behind the new houſe building by Mr. Holmes, the whole is ſeen to great advantage. The ſpreading part of the Shannon, called Loch Derg, is commanded diſtinctly for many miles; it is in two grand diviſions of great variety. That to the north is a reach of five miles leading to Portumna. The whole hither ſhore a ſcenery of hills, checkered by incloſures and little woods, and retiring from the eye into a rich diſtant proſpect. The woods of Doras, belonging to Lord Clanrickard, form a part of the oppoſite ſhore, and the river itſelf preſents an iſland of 120 acres. Inclining to the left, a vale of rough ground, with an old caſtle in it, is backed by a bold hill, which intercepts the river there, and then the great reach of 15 miles, the bay of Sheriff, ſpreads to the eye, with a magnificence not a little added to by the boundary, a ſharp outline of the *county of clare mountains*, between which and the *Duharrow hills*, the Shannon finds its way. Theſe hills lead the eye ſtill more to the left, till *the Keeper* meets it, preſenting a very beautiful outline that ſinks into other ranges of hill, uniting with *the Devil's Bit*. The home ſcenery of the grounds, woods, hills, and lake of Johnſtown, is beautiful.

Mr. Holmes has practiced agriculture upon an extenſive ſcale, and not without making ſome remarks, which muſt be of uſe to others.

He has not for five or ſix years paſt been without a ſmall field of Scotch cabbages. The ſeed he ſows both in March and autumn for uſe at different ſeaſons; the rows he plants three feet aſunder, and two feet from cabbage to cabbage. He has uſed them for fat ſheep and fat cattle, but principally for weaned calves: they have anſwered perfectly well in all, but remarkably ſo with the calves, of which Mr. Holmes has had the beſt in the country, and ſingly from being thus fed. His people were all of opinion, that a good acre of cabbages will go as far as two acres of turnips, worth each 3l. Two years ago a violent froſt ſtopped the uſe of turnips, and he then found the benefit of them prodigiouſly great. He has always manured for them with dung or marle, the former beſt.

RAPE CAKE,

Mr. Holmes has uſed as a manure, with great ſucceſs: in 1775, he dreſſed two acres of worn out meadow, with a ton and an half an acre, at 2l. 2s. per ton; and in 1776, he laid on ſeven tons, at 1¼ per acre; the firſt trial was made too late, and a dry ſeaſon coming, the effect was not great. The laſt year it was laid on the fifth of April, when the effect was remarkably great: it threw up a moſt luxuriant crop of the fineſt herbage, inſomuch that he is convinced nothing can anſwer better, and is determined to extend the practice conſiderably. He has tried it on low, wet, and on upland, and the effect infinitely greater on the latter. In the ſame field, Mr. Holmes fed 150 ſheep ſome months, on the produce of ſeven acres of turnips, going over nine acres of graſs; the benefit to the latter did not near equal that of the rape, except in the deſtruction of moſs, which was deſtroyed by both methods.

CLOVER.

Mr. Holmes has uſed this graſs theſe ſix years; he began with ſix acres, and has extended it as far as ſeventeen acres laſt year: he ſows 24lb. of ſeed per acre. The crops as good as he has ſeen in England; has mown it twice, but now feeds the ſecond growth. He has tried it on dry lime-ſtone hills, which are ſlow in coming to graſs, but anſwer well in clover. For his ſheep he finds it of great uſe. Ewes lamb here about the 17th of March, and when turnips are done, want the clover very much: alſo in keeping fat ſheep for a late market. Courſe of crops,

1. Turnips on old turf, two ploughings and a ſlight burning. 2. Turnips. 3. Barley, yielding 18 barrels. 4. Clover. 5. Clover. 6. Wheat, yielding 8 barrels. 7. Oats, ditto 15. Alſo,

1. Manure a ſtubble for cabbages. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley, 20 barrels. 4. Clover. 5. Clover. 6. Wheat. 7. Oats.

October 3d, taking my leave of Johnſtown and its agreeable and hoſpitable family, I took the road towards Derry, the ſeat of Michael Head, Eſq; through a country much of it bordering on the Shannon, and commanding many fine views of that river; but its nakedneſs, except at particular places, takes off much from the beauty of the ſcenery. Near to Derry there are ſome finer views. From one hill, the road commands the bay of Skeriff, Loch Derg, back to Johnſtown; and the river turning under the hills of Achnis, a promontory of wood, which ſeparates them, is fully ſeen: there are alſo many hedges, ſo well grown with ſcattered trees on the higher ſide as to have a pleaſing effect. I found Mr. Head, on my arrival, juſt going to dine with a neighbour, Mr. Parker, whoſe father had worked a very fine mountain improvement, and who would probably be there: this was a ſufficient inducement, had there been no other, for me to accompany him. I found Mr. Parker's houſe ſo near the river, as ſometimes to be waſhed by it. The improvement I had heard of is a hill of above 40 acres, which was covered with ling, furze, &c. and not worth 6d. an acre thirty-two years ago when the work was begun. He grubbed, ploughed it, and ſowed oats, and marled the ſtubble from the Shannon; the marle, from the ſteepneſs of the hill, being carried on the backs of oxen. Upon this he took a crop of wheat, and another of oats, both exceedingly fine, and with the latter ſowed the ſeeds for the graſs, which ſtill remains,

an

and has been improving ever ſince; it is now worth 30s. an acre, and a very pleaſing object to the eye, eſpecially ſince Mr. Parker, junior, has added to the fineneſs of the verdure and herbage by feeding it with many ſheep.

In the ſame converſation I alſo learned a few particulars of a bog of twelve acres part of one of 150, improved by Mr. Minchin, near Nenagh. The firſt operation was to cut main drains ſix feet deep, and croſs ones of 18 inches or two feet, and as ſoon as it was a little firm, covered it with lime-ſtone gravel three inches thick, before the bog would bear a car; but did it by beginning at the edge, and advancing on the part gravelled. Part was tilled, and part left for graſs without ploughing: the meadow thus formed has been exceedingly fine. One uncommon circumſtance was, his having paved the bottom of the drains with gravel, in order to prevent cattle from being bogged in them. The expenſe of the whole improvement 8l. an acre. The profit immenſe.

It is to Mr. Head's attention that I am indebted for the following particulars concerning the barony of Owna and Arra. The ſoil is a light gravelly loam, on a ſlaty rock, which is almoſt general through the whole. The rent on an average 15s. for profitable land, and 1s. for mountain; and as there is about half and half, the whole will be 8s. The riſe of rent, in twenty years is about double. Eſtates are generally large, ſcarce any ſo low as 5 or

600l.

600l. a year. Farms are all ſmall, none above 3 or 400 acres: many are taken in partnerſhip, three, four, or five families to 100 acres. They divide the land among themſelves, each man taking according to his capital. The terms *rundale* and *changedale* unknown, as is the latter practice. There are no farms without buildings upon them. Laying out money in building better houſes would pay no intereſt at all, as they are perfectly ſatisfied with their mud cabbins. Courſes of crops on reclaimed mountain,

1. Marle for oats. 2. Bere. 3. Bere. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats, or Engliſh barley. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats. 10. Oats. The number of theſe crops of oats proportioned to the quantity of marle laid on; but the rule is to take as long as the land will yield, and then leave it to recover itſelf by weeds. Another courſe.

1. Potatoes in drills on an exhauſted ſtubble. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats, and ſo on till none will be got.

The quantity of wheat is very little; for that little they ſow a barrel an acre, and get 8 barrels; medium price, 10d. to 13d. a ſtone. Of bere they ſow a barrel, and get 15. Of oats ſow two barrels, the produce 8 to 15, according to being early or late in the courſe. Price of bere, ſix-pence to ſeven-pence halfpenny. Oats, four-pence to ſix-pence per ſtone. No peaſe, beans, clover, or turnips; but they have little patches of flax for their own conſumption. Potatoes they very generally cultivate in drills; they plough the ſtubble twice or thrice, and then open trenches with the plough three feet aſunder; in which they put ſome dung, lay the ſets on it, and cover them with the plough if they have horſes, or if not with ſhovels. They keep them clean by conſtant earthing up with ploughs or ſhovels. They dig them out, the produce thirty-five barrels per acre. They find that nothing is ſo good and clean as fallow for corn. Some poor people hire graſs land for them in the lazy bed way, paying 3l. to 5l. 10s. per acre.

The only manure uſed beſides dung is the ſhelly marle, dredged up from the bottom of the Shannon. Mr. Head's grandfather was the firſt who introduced that method of getting at it by bringing men from Dublin uſed to raiſing ballaſt. It proved ſo profitable, that the uſe has much increaſed ſince. It lies irregularly in banks, from 100 to 200 yards from the ſhore, and under 10 or 12 feet of water in ſummer which is the only time they can get it. The price of raiſing it is from 1s. to 2s. according to circumſtances, beſides finding boat, ropes, and all tackle; a boat contains 60 buſhels, and requires 5 men. They land it on a quay, from whence it is taken in ſledge carts to ſome diſtance for drying, nor is it dry enough for carting away till the year following. Some think it worth carrying one mile, and even two. The common people do not lay on more than four or five boat loads to an acre, but Mr. Head always ten, and the whole expenſe he calculates at 40s. Much bad land has been reclaimed by it, and to great profit. All their dung is uſed for potatoes.

The tillage of the common people is done with horſes, four in a plough, which do half an acre a day: gentlemen uſe four oxen. The price 8s. an acre. No paring and burning.

They ſhut up their meadows for hay in March or April, and rarely begin to mow till September. I ſhould remark, that I ſaw the hay making or marring all the way (October 3d) from Johnſtown hither, with many fields covered with water, and the cocks forming little iſlands in them. They are generally two months making it; the crop one to one ton and a half per acre.

There is no regular ſyſtem of cattle in this barony, there not being above four or five graziers; but gentlemen, in their domains, have all the different ſyſtems. The common farmers keep a few of moſt ſorts of cattle, except fat ones. No large flocks of ſheep, but every farmer a few breeding ewes. The fleeces four to a ſtone. They ſell either lambs, hoggits, or two or three year olds; the price of a two-year old ewe 10s. they have no winter food but graſs, even the gentlemen have their fat mutton all winter from the low graſs lands on the

Shannon, without either hay or turnips. The marled land has a remarkable ſpring of graſs in the winter; the rot is very little known. All keep pigs, which are much increaſed of late; their pork 32s. a cwt. laſt year at Limerick; Mr. Head has known it ſo low as 14s. No proportion between cows and pigs.

In hiring and ſtocking farms, many will take them in partnerſhip with no other capital than a little ſtock of cattle. Difficult to fix the number of years purchaſe at which land ſells. None has been ſold in this barony in Mr. Head's memory. Leaſes to proteſtants three lives.

The common mode of labour is that of cottars, they have a cabbin and an acre for 30s. and 30s. the graſs of a cow, reckoning with them at five pence a day the year round; other labour vibrates from four pence to ſixpence. A cottar with a middling family will have two cows; there is not one without a cow. All of them keep as many pigs as they can rear, and ſome poultry. Their circumſtances are rather better than 20 years ago.

A cottar's expences.

Rent of a cabbin and an acre -	1	10	0
Two cows - -	3	0	0
Hay for ditto, one ton - -	1	15	0
Tythe - - - -	0	4	0
Hearth money - - -	0	2	0
Carried over	£. 6	11	0

Brought over	£.6	11	0
One ſtone of wool a year for the man, one for the woman, and two ſtones for three children; this is what they ought to have, but the fact does not exceed two ſtone, one at 17s. and one at 8s. - -	1	5	0
Tools - - -	0	5	0
Turf, whether bought or in their own labour	1	0	0
Flax ſeed, five or ſix pottles, at 8d. -	0	3	6
Breaking and ſcutching, eight ſtone, at 10d.	0	6	8
Heckling ditto, at 10d. - -	0	6	8
Weaving 336 bandles, at 1s. 1d. a ſcore -	0	16	6

N. B. After heckling 56lb. flax, the reſt is tow, which they ſpin for bags, &c.

Two pair of brogues, 9s. 9d. and four pair ſoles, 1s. 10d. each, 7s. 4d. - -	0	17	1
A pair of women's ſhoes, 3s. 3d. and a pair of ſoles, 1s. 5d. - -	0	4	8
A boy of fourteen, two pair, at 2s. 2d. ſoles, 1s. 1d. - - -	0	3	3
A hat, 2s. 8d. the boy one, 1s. 6d. - -	0	4	2
	£.12	3	6

His receipt.

Deduct from		365 days	
Sundays	52		
Holiday	1		
Bad weather	10		
Own work	48		
		111	
Remain at 5d.		254	5 5 10

The

Brought over - -	5	5	10
The boy of twelve or fourteen, three-pence halfpenny a day - -	3	14	1
Two pigs, one eat, the other ſold for -	0	15	0
Two calves, one 20s. one 10s. -	1	10	0
	£. 11	4	11

N. B. Chickens and ducks pay for ſalt, ſoap and candles, and they eat the geeſe.

When my informant, who was a poor man, had finiſhed, I demanded how the 20s. deficiency, with whiſky, and the prieſt, were to be paid; the anſwer was, that *he muſt not eat his geeſe and pig, or elſe not dreſs ſo well*, which probably is the caſe. Their acre of garden feeds them the year through; nine months on potatoes, and the other three on oaten bread, from their own oats. The conſumption of potatoes not increaſed in twenty years. A family of five perſons will eat and waſte forty-two ſtone of potatoes in a week. They are not addicted in any remarkable degree to thieving. The cottars of a farm might eaſily be taken from it, and yet the farm let without difficulty, for the tenant would ſoon have others; but it is queſtioned whether they could eaſily be made farmers of.

Dancing is very general among the poor people, almoſt univerſal in every cabbin. Dancing-maſters of their own rank travel through the country from cabbin to cabbin, with a piper or blind fidler; and the pay is ſixpence a quarter. It is an abſolute ſyſtem of education. Weddings are always celebrated with much dancing; and a Sunday rarely paſſes without a dance; there are very few among them who will not, after a hard day's work, gladly walk ſeven miles to have a dance. *John* is not ſo lively, but then a hard day's work with him is certainly a different affair from what it is with *Paddy*. Other branches of education are likewiſe much attended to, every child of the pooreſt family learning to read, write, and caſt accounts.

There is a very ancient cuſtom here, for a number of country neighbours among the poor people, to fix upon ſome young woman that ought, as they think, to be married; they alſo agree upon a young fellow as a proper huſband for her; this determined, they ſend to the fair one's cabbin to inform her, that on the Sunday following *ſhe is to be horſed*, that is carried on men's backs. She muſt then provide whiſky and cyder for a treat, as all will pay her a viſit after maſs for a hurling match. As ſoon as ſhe is *horſed*, the hurling begins, in which the young fellow appointed for her huſband, has the eyes of all the company fixed on him; if he comes off conqueror, he is certainly married to the girl, but if another is victorious, he as certainly loſes her, for ſhe is the prize of the victor. Theſe trials are not always finiſhed in one Sunday, they take ſometimes two or three, and the common expreſſion when they are over is, that *ſuch a girl was goal'd*. Sometimes one barony hurls againſt another, but a marriageable girl is always the prize. Hurling is a ſort of cricket, but inſtead of throwing the ball in order to knock down a wicket, the aim is to paſs it through a bent ſtick, the ends ſtuck in the ground. In theſe matches they perform ſuch feats of activity, as ought to evidence the food they live on to be far from deficient in nouriſhment.

Tythes—Potatoes, 5s. Wheat, barley, bere, 5s. Oats, 2s. 6d. Meadow, 2s. They are in the management of proctors, but the greateſt hardſhip attending them, is the poor man paying for his garden, while the rich grazier pays nothing, owing to the famous vote of the houſe of commons.

There is only one flour mill in the barony, and the increaſe of tillage is very trifling, but the whiſky ſtills at Killaloe, trebled in five or ſix years.

Prices not in the tables.

Wild ducks, 1s. a couple. Teal, 6d. Plover, 2d. Salmon, three halfpence to 3d. per lb. Large pike, 2s. 6d. each. Trout, of twelve inches long, 1d. each. Eels, 1s. a dozen. Eggs, ten a penny in ſummer, three in winter. Women's labour in harveſt, 3d. in winter, 2d. Maid's wages, 1l. 10s. A lad's, 1l. 8s. Mowing, per acre, 2s. 4d. Women earn by ſpinning, 3d. Hire of a car, with man and horſe, 1s. 6d. Threſhing wheat, per barrel, 6d. Bere, 4d. Oats, two pence halfpenny. Barley, 3d.

BUILDING.

A mud cabbin, 4l.

Ditto of ſtone and ſlate, 20l.

A dry wall, five feet high, building	0	1	3
Labour coping	0	0	6
Daſhing	0	0	2
Lime, two barrels	0	1	4
Sand	0	0	2
	0	3	5

Beſids carting the ſtones, the maſon's perch of houſe walling, 1s. 6d.

All materials laid at the ſpot.

Oak bark, 8l. to 9l. a ton.

Cars are made by hatchet men, at 6d. a day.

Timber and labour of one	0	10	0
Iron	0	10	0
	£. 1	0	0

In the hills above Derry are ſome very fine ſlate quarries, that employ 60 men. The quarrymen are paid 3s. a thouſand for the ſlates, and the labourers 5d. a day. They are very fine, and ſent by the Shannon to diſtant parts of the kingdom; the price at the quarry 6s. a thouſand, and at the ſhore 6s. 8d. 400,000 ſlates are raiſed to pay the rent only, from which ſome eſtimate may be made of the quantity.

Mr. Head has made ſome conſiderable improvements of waſte or rough land by means of marle. His firſt was a field of 14 acres ten years ago; the ſoil light, as before deſcribed of the country in general; the ſpontaneous growth, furze and ferns, worth 5s. an acre. He cleared it from ſtones, which were uſed for building; the expence ſmall, marled it, and ſowed five crops of corn, and with the laſt of them hay ſeeds: it became a meadow in two years, and is now worth 30s. an acre. The next was a field of eight acres, the ſame ſoil; he broke it up for potatoes, then took one crop of corn, marled it on the ſtubble, and ſowed five crops of corn, laying down with the fifth. Worth 8s. an acre before, now 30s. Five acres and an half were alſo done, marled on the ſurface, the effect little; it was therefore ploughed up in four or five years; yielded two crops of good turnips, two of Engliſh barley, and then laid down. It is now worth 30s. an acre.

The next attempt was upon 16 acres, not worth 2s. 6d. an acre, over-run with furze, fern and heath, with ſo many ſtones that clearing them away coſt 10s. an acre. Ploughed and burnt it, and took two crops of turnips, then two of oats. Left it to itſelf for five or ſix years, and then marled it, ſince it has yielded four crops of corn, and is now worth 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre.

The laſt improvement is a field of 11 acres, which has been lately marled.

Mr. Head has 400 ſheep, and they conſiſt of 100 breeding ewes.—100 lambs.—84 hoggits. —70 three-year old wethers and culled ewes, fat.—46 two year old wethers. He ſells annually

Fifty fat wethers — —	57	0	0
Fifty culled ewes, at 18s. —	45	0	0
Four-hundred fleeces, 133 ſtone, at 18s.	119	14	0
	£. 221	14	0

Mr. Head has a practice in his fences which deſerves univerſal imitation: it is planting trees for gate-poſts. Stone piers are expenſive and always tumbling down; trees are beautiful, and never want repairing. Within 15 years this gentleman has improved Derry ſo much, that thoſe who had only ſeen it before, would find it almoſt a new creation. He has built a handſome ſtone-houſe, on the ſlope of a hill riſing from the Shannon, and backed by ſome fine woods, which unite with many old hedges well planted to form a woodland ſcene, beautiful in the contraſt to the bright expanſe of the noble river below: the declivity, on which theſe woods are, finiſhes in a mountain, which riſes above the whole. The Shannon gives a bend around the adjoining lands, ſo as to be ſeen from the houſe both to the weſt and north, the lawn falling gradually to a margin of wood on the ſhore, which varies the outline. The river is two miles broad, and on the oppoſite ſhore cultivated incloſures riſe in ſome places almoſt to the mountain top, which is very bold.

It is a very ſingular demeſne; a ſtripe of very beautiful ground, reaching two miles along the banks of the river, which forms his fence on one ſide, with a wall on the other. There is ſo much wood as to render it very pleaſing, adding to every day by planting all the fences made or repaired. From ſeveral little hills, which riſe in different parts of it, extenſive views of the river are commanded quite to Portumna; but theſe are much eclipſed by that from the top of the hill above the ſlate quarry. From thence you ſee the river for at leaſt 40 miles, from Portumna to 20 miles beyond Limerick. It has the appearance of a fine baſon, two miles over, into which three great rivers lead, being the north and ſouth courſe and the bay of Skeriff. The reaches of it one beyond another to Portumna are fine. At the foot of the mountain Mr. Head's demeſne extends in a ſhore of rich woodland.

October 7th, took my leave of Mr. Head, after paſſing four days very agreeably, Through Killaloe, over the Shannon, a very long bridge of many arches; went out of the road to ſee a fall of that river at Caſtle Connel, where there is ſuch an accompanyment of wood as to form a very pleaſing ſcenery; the river takes a very rapid rocky courſe, around a projecting rock, on which a gentleman has built a ſummer-houſe, and formed a terrace: it is a ſtriking ſpot. To Limerick. Laid at Bennis's, the firſt inn we had ſlept in from Dublin. God preſerve us this journey from another!

The 8th, leaving that place, I took the road through Palace to Cullen. The firſt ſix or ſeven miles from Limerick has a great deal of corn, which ſhews that tillage is gaining even upon bullocks themſelves. I obſerved with much pleaſure, that all the cottars had their little gardens ſurrounded with banks well planted with oſiers. To the Rev. Mr. Lloyd's, at Caſtle Lloyd, near Cullen, a gentleman who I found as able and willing as he had been repreſented, to give me the intelligence I wiſhed relative to the grazing grounds around him.—The following particulars, which I owe to him, concern more immediately the barony of Clanwilliam in Tipperary; the ſame in Limerick, Small County, and the part of Coonagh next Clanwilliam. In theſe parts the ſoil and management are much the ſame: that of Oonabeg nearly, but not quite equal.

The ſoil is a loam of a yellowiſh brown, friable, but putrid and mixed with a ſmall quantity of grit ſtones upon a lime-ſtone rock, at the depth of two, three, and four feet; much of it is very dry, but the richeſt has what is here called *a tender moiſt ſkin*, which yields ſo much to the tread of beaſts that it breaks under them: the richer and the more improved it is, the more ſo. It is a great error to aſſert, that it would not do for tillage, for there is none better for the purpoſe if properly managed.

The average rent of the rich parts of this tract is 30s. an acre. In Coonagh there are 19,313 acres, half of it not worth 5s. an acre, being mountainous. In the laſt twenty years, the rents of the rich lands have riſen about a fourth, and two-thirds ſince the year 1748.

Average of the county of Tipperary, 12s. 6d. Ditto of Limerick, 10s. 6d. Ditto of Corke, 5s.

Eſtates are generally very large, but ſome ſo low as 300l. a year. Farms ariſe from ſmall ones in partnerſhip to 5 or 6000 acres. The tillage acts have had the effect of leſſening them evidently. The great ſyſtem of this diſtrict is that of grazing. Bullocks are bought in at the fairs of Ballinaſloe, Newport, Banagher, Toomavarra, &c. in the months of September, October, and November, the prices from 5l. to 8l. average, 6l. Twenty years ago beaſts were bought at 40s. which now could not be got under 4l. The prices having doubled, allowing at the ſame time for the improved ſize of beaſts. As ſoon as bought, they are turned into the coarſeſt ground of the farm; the fattening ſtock being put into the after-graſs, the lean ones are turned after them; if the farmer has a tract of mountain, they will be turned into that at firſt. They are put to hay after Chriſtmas, and kept at it till May. An acre of hay for three bullocks is reckoned a good allowance, the quantity will be from three to four tons. It is given ſcattered upon the ground in dry fields, till the latter end of April, or the beginning of May, when they are collected into a ſmall ſpace, in order for the graſs elſewhere to grow. About the 10th of May they are put to graſs for the ſummer; and in this, the method is to turn into every field the ſtock which they imagine will be maintained by it, and leave the whole there till fat. The Corke butchers come in July and Auguſt to make their bargains, and begin to draw in September, and continue to take them till December. Some graziers keep them with hay till the market riſes, but it is not a common practice. It is thought that they begin to loſe fleſh about the 20th of November, and that after the firſt nothing is gained. Average ſelling price, 9l. 10s. It vibrates from 8l. to 11l. 10s.

Annexed to this bullock ſyſtem is that of buying in bull calves, ſix months old, in September and October, from 20s. to 40s. each, ſome to 3l. theſe are fed in well ſheltered prights with graſs and hay, and ſold in May and June with 20s. profit upon an average. One acre of hay will yield enough for nine calves; the proportion is, to buy a calf to every acre.

Upon other parts of the farm, where calves are not fed in this manner, ſheep are ſubſtituted. Much land is hired here by Tipperary farmers, who bring their ſheep to it; and where this is not the caſe, the Limerick farmers have both coarſe and rich land which enables them to go into ſheep. They keep ſtocks of breeding ewes. If a man has 100 ewes, he will have 100 lambs, 100 yearlings, 100 two-year olds, 100 three-year olds, ſelling every year 50 three-year old fat wethers, and 50 culled ewes, viz.

50 wethers, at 25s. — —	62	10	0
50 culled ewes, fat, at 23s. —	57	10	0
400 fleeces, 133 ſtone of wool, at 15s.	99	15	0
500 Total flock	£. 219	15	0

If a man has only rich land in thoſe baronies, without any in Tipperary, then he keeps only bullocks regularly; but he buys in ſome *boggit* ſheep, which he keeps a year, and ſells fat. The Tipperary ſyſtem is ſuppoſed to be the moſt profitable, for they have given more for the Limerick lands than the Limerick people themſelves. Beſides theſe methods, there is another which is buying in cows in March, April, May, and June, at 3l. to 6l. each, and ſelling them fat with 40s. profit. This is very profitable, but ſubject to difficulties, for they are troubleſome to pick up, and much ſubject to diſtempers.

Calculation of the profit of grazing bullocks.

One bullock bought in at - -	6	0	0
Rent of one acre and one-third -	2	0	0
County ceſs, at 9d. - -	0	1	0
Mowing, making, carting, and ſtacking hay	0	3	0
Herdſman, at 12l. a year - -	0	2	0
Loſſes on ſtock, ½ per cent. - -	0	0	6
	8	6	6
Intereſt of 8l. at 6 per cent. - -	0	9	7
	£. 8	16	1

PRODUCE.

Sale of a bullock - -	9	0	0
Value of the after-graſs of one-third of an acre	0	3	4
	9	3	4
Expences - - -	8	16	1
Profit on one acre and one-third -	0	7	3
Which is per acre - -	£. 0	5	6

This profit is, I think, very low, ſo low that nothing but the eaſe with which grazing bullocks is carried on, could induce a man to be ſatisfied with it.

The ſize to which oxen now come upon this rich land is 5¼cwt. twenty years ago it was 4½ cwt. the additional ¾ cwt. is owing not to any improvement in the land, or management, but of the breed.

Particulars of a grazing farm at Cullen.

120 acres in all. 110 bullocks. 40 lambs. 4 cows. 7 acres of meadow. 1½ acre, herdſman's garden. 2 acres of orchard. 246l. rent, or 41s. per acre.

The number of ſheep kept in this neighbourhood has decreaſed, owing to the diviſion into ſmaller farms. The winter food for them in the rich tracts is graſs, except in ſnows, when they turn them to their hay ſtacks, they are very little troubled with the rot. The riſe in the price of wool, 5s. a ſtone in 30 years.

There are but few dairies; the little farmers have the chief. The breed of the cows is generally half Engliſh, half Iriſh. They are kept on the pooreſt grounds, 1½ acre, or 1¾, keeps a cow the year round; the uſual produce is 1 cwt. of butter, and 20s. horn money, or 3l. in all; the winter food hay, ¼ of an acre to each. The calf is always reared; valued when it drops at 2s. 6d. or 3s. the medium price of a cow, 5l. There have been many Engliſh bulls introduced for improving the cattle of the country, at a conſiderable expence, and great exertions in the breed of ſheep; ſome perſons, Mr. Dexter chiefly, have brought Engliſh rams, which they let out at ſeventeen guineas a ſeaſon, and alſo at 10s. 6d. a ewe, which indicates a ſpirited attention.

Hogs all the way from Limerick are of a very good breed, far ſuperior to the common Iriſh, and the number greatly increaſed.

Reſpecting tillage, the chief is done by little farmers, for the graziers apply themſelves ſolely to cattle. It is entirely connected with breaking up graſs for potatoes—the quantity ſmall.

1. Graſs potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats, and then leave it for graſs without ſowing any ſeeds. With gentlemen it is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats, or Engliſh barley. 5. Oats, left ſmooth to graſs itſelf—Shame to them for being as bad farmers as the Paddies!

The graſs is let for the potatoe crop to the poor people, who pay from 5l. to ſix guineas an acre for it; no manure uſed; nine barrels of ſeed at 20 ſtone, plant an acre; the uſual ſeaſon April and the beginning of May. In planting, they dig the whole ground, except the two firſt ſods, and when they have got ſeven or eight feet, form trenches in the common manner; they weed them carefully; the produce about 120 barrels per acre; price 2s.

to 3s. 6d. a barrel; they pay as much rent for the ſecond crop as the firſt, and it is as good, though they don't plant it, truſting to the little potatoes left in the ground, and which they ſpread in digging; but this is a moſt ſlovenly practice; if they were to plant the ſecond crop it would be better than the firſt, provided it is as good without it.

Expences of an acre.

Rent		6 0 0
Nine barrels of ſeed at 3s.		1 7 0
Planting, and digging, 16 men, at 8d.	0 10 8	
Planting, 12 children at 4d.	0 4 0	
Trenching, 12 men	0 8 0	
Cutting ſets, eight women at 4d.	0 2 8	
Second trenching, ſix men	0 4 0	
		1 9 4
		8 16 4
Digging out, twenty-ſix men at 8d.		0 17 4
Picking, twelve women		0 4 0
Carrying home, two horſes		0 3 0
Tythe		0 11 0
		10 11 8

PRODUCE.

One hundred and twenty, at 3s.	18 0 0
Expences	10 11 8
Profit	£.7 8 4

Prime coſt, 1s. 2½d. per barrel.

They do not plough the potatoe land for bere at all, but trench it in with ſpade and ſhovel, ſow ſix buſhels an acre, and get 20 barrels, at 7s. on an average. They then plough once for oats, ſow ſix buſhels, and get 16 to 20 barrels, worth 4s. a barrel on a medium, at 12 ſtone. The ſecond crop of oats is as good as the firſt. In the gentleman's courſe the wheat is trenched in if the ſeaſon is wet, but ploughed in if it is dry; twenty ſtone of ſeed per acre, the product ten barrels, at 20 ſtone, and the price 20s. Plough twice for the Engliſh barley; ſow five or ſix buſhels per acre, and get 20 barrels, 17 ſtone per barrel, at 8d. a ſtone. No lime, marle, or limeſtone gravel uſed, nor clover, peaſe, beans, or turnips ſown; but enough flax is ſown by every poor family for their own uſe; and ſome ſell it at fairs, after ſcutching, at 4s. to 5s. a ſtone. There are many weavers about the country, who make bandle cloth, and ſome a yard wide, for the poor people; they live both in towns and villages. All the women ſpin flax. They ſhut up their fields for hay the beginning of June, generally mow in September, the crop three to four tons an acre, ſometimes five or ſix. It is ſold ſtanding for 40s. an acre.

Tillage is done with horſes, four in a plough, and do half an acre a day, four or five inches deep; the price 7s. to 10s. In hiring and ſtocking they reckon that 3l. an acre will do for a grazing farm, but much leſs for tillage. Leaſes are for thirty-one years or three lives.

Land ſells at twenty years purchaſe: there has been a fall of rents from 1772, to the American war, but ſince that time they have been riſing. The religion all Roman catholic.

Much of the labour is done by ſervants, hired into the houſe of little farmers that keep dairies, &c. Much alſo by cottars, who have a cabbin and an acre and a half of potatoe garden, which are valued at three guineas; they have alſo two cows, at 50s. a cow. Three-fourths of an acre under potatoes every year, and the reſt oats and flax; they get about 120 barrels an acre, which crop, with the oats, feed them the year through; they are much more eaten than they were 20 years ago; two barrels will laſt a family a week as they are uſually conſumed. They all keep a pig, a dog, two cats, and ſome poultry; their circumſtances are better than they were twenty years ago; their pig they ſell, but they eat ſome poultry, particularly geeſe. Some of them buy turf for fuel, which coſts them fifteen ſhillings: but many depend on breaking and ſtealing hedge-wood; they are much given to pilfering.

Cottar's account.

Cabbin and 1½ acre - - -	3	8	3
Graſs of two Cows - -	5	0	0
Turf - - -	0	15	0
Carried over	£. 9	3	3

Brought over,	9	3	3
Tythe	0	11	0
Seed flax, four pottles	0	3	4
20 Bandles of cloth for the man 20 ——— for the woman 7 ——— for three children — 47 weaving, at ¾d.	0	3	0
N. B. Hackled, &c. by themſelves.			
One ſtone of wool for the whole family	0	17	0
Weaving ditto	0	3	4
Shoes	0	10	0
Hats	0	1	0
Hearth money	0	2	0

Duties to the Prieſt.

Two confeſſions	0	2	2			
A chriſtening	0	1	6			
Sundries	0	1	4			
				0	5	0
				£. 11	18	11

His Receipt.

Days		365			
Sundays	52				
Holydays	30				
Bad weather	10				
His own garden	20				
		112			
		253 at 5d.	£. 5	5	5

The

Brought over	5	5	5
The eldeſt child, 10 or 12 years old, 2d. a day for 253 days	2	2	1
Other earnings of the family	1	0	0
A pig, bought at 7s. ſold at 47s.	2	0	0
Poultry	0	10	0
One Calf	0	15	0
Two cwt. of butter	4	0	0
	15	12	6
Expences	11	18	11
Remains for unſpecified demands, caſualties, &c.	3	13	7

Many of the poor here have no cows; there are cabbins on the road ſide that have no land; the inhabitants of them are called *ſpalpeens*, who are paid for their labour in caſh, by the month, &c. Some of them pay no rent at all, others 10s. a year; and theſe are the people who hire graſs land for their potatoes; it is certain that the cottars are much better off than theſe ſpalpeens, who can get but little milk, buying it part of the ſummer half year only of the dairy farmers.

Tythes. Wheat, 8s. Bere, 7s. Barley, 7s. Oats, 4s. 6d. Potatoes, 11s. Meadow, 2s. 8d.

Prices not in the tables.

Womens labour, reaping, 4d. Other work, 3d. Making hand turf, 6d. Farming man's wages, 3l. to 4l. Farming maid's ditto, 1l. 12s. Mowing, per acre, 2s. 6d. to 3s. in

1745, only 1s. 6d. Ditching, 9d. a perch. Double ones, 1s. 6d. ſeven feet wide at top, three and a half at bottom, and four deep, and they will earn 8d. a day at it. Hire of a car, 1s. 6d. a day. In 1745 it was 1s. Price of a car, 1l. 18s. 3d. Building a mud cabbin, 3l. Stone and ſlate, 25l. Maſon's perch of ſtone walls for labour, 9d. ſix feet high complete, 16s. Oak, 4l. a ton; twenty years ago, 2l. Lime, 10½d. a barrel, burnt with culm, brought 25 miles.

Mr. Lloyd has worked a very great improvement of a ſhaking moraſs, which when he began was worth only 5s. an acre. The firſt buſineſs was banking it, from a river ſubject to floods, with a parallel back cut, to carry off the water that came over his bank. He then carried a central drain through it and a mile beyond it, to gain a fall. Next he ſubdivided it into fields, from 10 to 20 acres, by ditches planted with quick. The land was over-run with much underwood and ſedgy tuſſocks, &c. theſe were all grubbed, cut up, and burnt; after which cattle were put in, the improvement being finiſhed; and it has grown better and better ever ſince, being now worth 30s. an acre: ſome of it is actually let at 38s. It was a very expenſive undertaking, owing to the ſtream above him belonging to a neighbour, who did not ſecond his undertaking; he was obliged to make a long bank upon this account only, partly over a turf bog, which was blown up once, but made again with great difficulty;

fourteen ſpits deep were cleared, and a foundation of rammed clay laid: this coſt 1000l. it has, however, ſtood well ſince.

Lime Mr. Lloyd tried in a very ſatisfactory experiment; he broke up one of the rich hills near Caſtle Lloyd, and limed half a field; afterwards upon laying the whole down, the part limed has continued of a much deeper green and more luxuriant herbage than the other half.

October 10th, left Caſtle Lloyd, and took the road by Galbally to Mitchel's Town, through a country part of it a rich grazing tract; but from near Galbally, to the Galty mountains, there are large ſpaces of flat lands, covered with heath and furze, that are exceedingly improvable, yet ſeem as neglected as if nothing could be made of them. The road leads immediately at the northern foot of the Galties, which form the moſt formidable and romantic boundary imaginable; the ſides are almoſt perpendicular, and reach a height, which piercing the clouds, ſeem formed rather for the boundaries of two conflicting empires, than the property of private perſons. The variety of the ſcenery exhibited by theſe mountains is great; the road after paſſing ſome miles parallel with them, turns over a hill, a continuation of their chain, and commands an oblique view of their ſouthern ſide, which has much more variety than the northern; it looks down at the ſame time upon a long plain, bounded by theſe and other mountains, ſeveral rivers winding through it, which join in the center, near Mitchel's Town. I had been informed that this was a miſerable place: it has at leaſt a ſituation worthy of the proudeſt capital.

Upon my arrival, Lord Kingſborough, who poſſeſſes almoſt the whole country, procured me the information I requeſted in the moſt liberal manner, and a reſidence ſince has enabled me to perfect it. His Lordſhip's vaſt property extends from Kildorrery to Clogheen, beyond Ballyporeen, a line of more than 16 Iriſh miles, and it ſpreads in breadth from five to ten miles. It contains every variety of land, from the fertility of grazing large bullocks to the mountain heath the cover of grouſe. The profitable land lets from 8s. to 25s. an acre, but the whole does not on an average yield more than 2s. 6d. Such a field for future improvements is therefore rarely to be found. On the cold and bleak hills of Scotland eſtates of greater extent may be found, but lying within twenty miles of Corke, the moſt ſoutherly part of Ireland, admits a rational prophecy that it will become one of the firſt properties in Europe.

The ſize of farms held by occupying tenants is in general very ſmall, Lord Kingſborough having releaſed them from the bondage of the middle men. Great tracts are held in partnerſhip; and the amount held by ſingle farmers riſes from 5l. to 50l. a year, with a very few large farms.

The ſoils are as various as in ſuch a great extent they may be ſuppoſed: the worſt is the wet moraſſy land, on a whitiſh gravel, the ſpontaneous growth, ruſhes *(juncus conglomeratus)* and heath *(erica vulgaris)*; this yields a ſcanty nouriſhment to cows and half-ſtarved young cattle. Large tracts of wet land has a black peat or a turf ſurface; this is very reclaimable, and there are immenſe tracts of it. The profitable ſoil is in general a ſandy or a gravelly loam, of a reddiſh brown colour, and the principal diſtinction is its being on lime or grit ſtone, the former generally the beſt. It declines in value from having a yellow ſand or a yellow clay near the ſurface under it. There are tracts of ſuch incomparable land that I ſeen very little equal to it, except in Tipperary, Limerick, and Roſcommon. A deep friable loam, moiſt enough for the ſpontaneous growth to fat a bullock, and dry enough to be perfectly under command in tillage: if I was to name the characteriſtics of an excellent ſoil, I ſhould ſay *that* upon which you may fat an ox, and feed off a crop of turnips. By the way I recollect little or no ſuch land in England, yet is it not uncommon in Ireland. Quarries of the fineſt lime-ſtone are found in almoſt every part of the eſtate.

The tracts of mountain are of a prodigious extent; the Galties only are ſix or ſeven miles long, from one to four miles acroſs; and more improvable upon the whole than any land I have ſeen, turf and lime-ſtone being on the ſpot, and a gentle expoſure hanging to the ſouth. In every inacceſſible cliff there are mountain aſh, *(fraxinus excelſior)* oak, *(quercus robur)* holly, *(ilex aquifolium)* birch, *(betula alba)* willow, *(ſalix)* hazel, *(corylus avellana)* and white thorn, *(cratægus oxyacantha)* and even to a conſiderable height up the mountain, which, with the many old ſtumps ſcattered about them, prove that the whole was once a foreſt, an obſervation applicable to every part of the eſtate.

The tillage here extends no farther than what depends on potatoes, on which root they ſubſiſt as elſewhere. They ſometimes manure the graſs for them, and take a ſecond crop; after which they follow them with oats, till the ſoil is ſo exhauſted as to bear no longer, when they leave it to weeds and trumpery, which vile ſyſtem has ſpread itſelf ſo generally over all the old meadow and paſture of the eſtate, that it has given it a face of deſolation—furze, *(eulex europæa)* broom, *(ſpartium ſcoparium)* fern, *(pteris aquilina)* and ruſhes, owing to this and to neglect, occupy ſeven-eighths of it. The melancholy appearance of the lands ariſing from this, which, with miſerable and unplanted mounds for fences, with no gate but a furze buſh ſtuck in a gap, or ſome ſtones piled on each other, altogether form a ſcene the more dreary, as an oak, an aſh, or an elm, are almoſt as great a rarity, (ſave in the plantations of the preſent Lord) as an olive, an orange, or a mulberry.

Of potatoes, eight barrels of ſeed plant an acre, which yields ſixty barrels, at twenty-one ſtone; the average price 4s. 4d.

Planting, fourteen men, at 6½d.	0	7	7
Trenching, fourteen ditto	0	7	7
Leading the dung	1	0	0
Spreading, ſix men	0	3	3
Eight barrels ſeed	1	14	8
Weeding by the women	0	0	0
Taking up, ſixty men	1	12	6
Carting home, &c.	0	15	0
	6	0	7

PRODUCE.

Sixty, at 4s. 4d.	13	0	0
Expenſes	6	0	7
	£. 6	19	5

Prime coſt, 2s. a barrel.

They lay them up in holes in the field. The ſecond crop is generally the beſt. Of oats they ſow two barrels, and reap from 8 to 15. There no wheat, and very little barley. Clover and turnips, rape, beans, and peaſe, quite unknown. The rents are paid by cattle, and of theſe dairy cows are the chief ſtock. The little farmers manage their own; the larger ones let them to dairymen for one cwt. of butter each cow, and 12s. to 15s. horn money; but the man has a privilege of four collops, and an acre of land and cabbin to every twenty cows. The people, moſt attentive to their own intereſt, are, however, getting out of this ſyſtem, from the innumerable raſcalities of theſe dairymen, they will play twenty tricks to keep them from taking the bull, in order to have the longer ſeaſon; and to force them to give down their milk, they have a very delicate cuſtom of blow-them where ————————, but I have heard of this practice in other parts.

The winter food is ſtraw and hay at night; not many of them are houſed. In the breeding ſyſtem they are very deficient. Vaſt numbers of calves are killed at two or three days old for an execrable veal they call *ſtaggering bob*, I ſuppoſe from the animal not being old enough to ſtand ſteady on its legs: they ſell at 2s. or 2s. 6d. a head. A good cow ſells from 5l. to 6l. 6s. and a calf of ſix or eight months, at 20s. or 22s. Sheep are kept in very ſmall numbers; a man will have two, or even one, and he thinks it worth his while to walk ten or twelve miles to a fair, with a ſtraw band tied to the leg of the lamb, in order to ſell it for 3s. 6d. an undoubted proof of the poverty of the country. Markets are crouded for this reaſon, for there is nothing too trifling to carry; a yard of linen, a fleece of wool, a couple of chickens, will carry an unemployed pair of hands ten miles. In the mountains are a ſmall breed of ſheep, which are as delicate mutton when properly fattened as the welch, and of ſo hardy a breed as to live upon heath, furze, &c. in winter as well as ſummer. Hogs are kept in ſuch numbers that the little towns and villages ſwarm with them; pigs and children baſk and roll about, and often reſemble one another ſo much, that it is neceſſary to look twice before the *human face divine* is confeſſed. I believe there are more pigs in Mitchelstown than human beings, and yet propagation is the only trade that flouriſhed here for ages.

Tillage is done by horſes; four in a plough do half an acre a day, five or ſix inches deep; the price 6s. to 10s. an acre.

Labour is chiefly done in the cottar ſyſtem, which has been ſo often explained; there are here every gradation of the lower claſſes, from the ſpalpeens, many among them ſtrangers, who build themſelves a wretched cabbin in the road, and have neither land, cattle, nor turf, riſing to the regular cottar, and from him to the little joint tenant, who, united with many others, takes ſome large farm in partnerſhip; ſtill riſing to the greater farmer.

The population is very great. It is but few diſtricts in the north that would equal the proportion that holds on this eſtate; the cabbins are innumerable, and like moſt Iriſh cabbins, ſwarm with children. Wherever there is many people, and little employment, idleneſs and its attendants muſt abound.

It is not to be expected that ſo young a man as Lord Kingſborough, juſt come from the various gaiety of Italy, Paris, and London, ſhould, in ſo ſhort a ſpace as two years, do much in a region ſo wild as Mitchelſtown; a very ſhort narrative however, will convince the reader, that the time he has ſpent here, has not been thrown away. He found his immenſe property in the hands of that ſpecies of tenant which we know ſo little of in England, but which in Ireland have flouriſhed almoſt to the deſtruction of the kingdom, the *middle man*, whoſe buſineſs and whoſe induſtry conſiſts in hiring great tracts of land as cheap as he can, and re-letting them to others as dear as he can, by which means that beautiful gradation of the pyramid, which connects the broad baſe of the poor people with the great nobleman they ſupport, is broken; he deals only with his own tenant, the multitude is abandoned to the humanity and feelings of others, which to be ſure may prompt a juſt and tender conduct; whether it does or not, let the miſery and poverty of the lower claſſes ſpeak, who are thus aſſigned over. This was the ſituation of nine-tenths of his property. Many leaſes being out, he rejected the trading tenant, and let every man's land to him, who occupied it at the rent he had himſelf received before.

During a year that I was employed in letting his farms, I never omitted any opportunity of confirming him in this ſyſtem, as far as was in my power, from a conviction that he was equally ſerving himſelf and the public in it; he will never quit it without having reaſon afterwards for regret.

In a country changing from licentious barbarity into civilized order, building is an object of perhaps greater conſequence than may at firſt be apparent. In a wild, or but half cultivated tract, with no better edifice than a mud cabbin, what are the objects that can impreſs a love of order on the mind of man? He muſt be wild as the roaming herds; ſavage as his rocky mountains; confuſion, diſorder, riot, have nothing better than himſelf to damage or deſtroy: but when edifices of a different ſolidity and character ariſe; when great ſums are expended, and numbers employed to rear more expreſſive monuments of induſtry and order, it is impoſſible but new ideas muſt ariſe, even in the uncultivated mind; it muſt feel ſomething, firſt to reſpect, and afterwards to love; gradually ſeeing that in proportion as the country becomes more decorated and valuable, licentiouſneſs will be leſs profitable, and more odious. Mitchelſtown, till his Lordſhip made it the place of his reſidence, was a den of vagabonds, thieves, rioters, and whiteboys; but I can witneſs to its being now as orderly and peaceable as any other Iriſh town, much owing to this circumſtance of building, and thereby employing ſuch numbers of the people. Lord Kingſborough, in a ſhort ſpace of time, has raiſed conſiderable edifices; a large manſion for himſelf, beautifully ſituated on a bold rock, the edge of a declivity, at the bottom of which is a river, and commanding a large tract of country, with as fine a boundary of mountain as I have ſeen; a quadrangle of offices; a garden of five Engliſh acres, ſurrounded with a wall, hot-houſes, &c. Beſides this, three good ſtone and ſlate houſes upon three farms, and engaged for three others, more conſiderable, which are begun; others repaired, and ſeveral cabbins built ſubſtantially.

So naked a country as he found his eſtate, called for other exertions, to invoke the Dryades it was neceſſary to plant, and they muſt be coy nymphs indeed if they are not in a few years propitious to him. He brought a ſkilful nurſeryman from England, and formed twelve acres of nurſery. It begins to ſhew itſelf; above ten thouſand perch of hedges are made, planted with quick and trees; and ſeveral acres, ſecurely incloſed on advantageous ſpots, and filled with young and thriving plantations. Trees were given, gratis, to the tenantry, and premiums begun for thoſe who plant moſt, and preſerve them beſt, beſides fourſcore pounds a year offered for a variety of improvements in agriculture the moſt wanted upon the eſtate.

Men, who from long poſſeſſion of landed property, become gradually convinced of the importance of attending to it, may at laſt work ſome improvements without meriting any conſiderable portion of praiſe; but that a young man, warm from pleaſure, ſhould do it, has a much ſuperior claim. Lord Kingſborough has, in this reſpect, a great deal of merit; and for the ſake both of himſelf and his country, I heartily wiſh he may *ſteadily* perſevere in that line of conduct which his underſtanding has once told him, and muſt continue to tell him, is ſo greatly for the advantage of himſelf, his family and the public.

It is not uncommon, eſpecially in mountainous countries, to find objects that much deſerve the attention of travellers intirely neglected by them. There are a few inſtances of this upon Lord Kingſborough's eſtate, in the neighbourhood of Mitchelſtown; the firſt I ſhall mention, is a cave at Skeheenrinky, on the road between Cahir and that place: the opening to it is a cleft of rock in a lime ſtone hill, ſo narrow as to be difficult to get into it. I deſcended by a ladder of about twenty ſteps, and then found myſelf in a vault of a hundred feet long, and fifty or ſixty high: a ſmall hole, on the left, leads from this a winding courſe of I believe not leſs than half an Iriſh mile, exhibiting a variety that ſtruck me much. In ſome places the cavity in the rock is ſo large, that when well lighted up by candles, (not flambeaux, Lord Kingſborough once ſhewed it me with them, and we found their ſmoak troubleſome) it takes the appearance of a vaulted cathedral, ſupported by maſſy columns. The walls, cieling, floor, and pillars, are by turns compoſed of every fantaſtic form; and often of very beautiful incruſtations of ſpar, ſome of which glitters ſo much, that it ſeems powdered with diamonds, and in others the cieling is formed of that ſort which has ſo near a reſemblance to a cauliflower. The ſpar formed into columns by the dropping of water has taken ſome very regular forms; but others are different, folded in plaits of light drapery, which hang from their ſupport in a very pleaſing manner. The angles of the walls ſeem fringed with iſicles. One very long branch of the cave, which turns to the north, is in ſome places ſo narrow and low, that one crawls into it, when it ſuddenly breaks into large vaulted ſpaces, in a thouſand forms. The ſpar in all this cave is very brilliant, and almoſt equal to Briſtol ſtone. For ſeveral hundred yards in the larger branch, there is a deep water at the bottom of the declivity to the right, which the common people call the river. A part of the way is over a ſort of potter's clay, which moulds into any form, and is of a brown colour: a very different ſoil from any in the neighbouring country. I have ſeen the famous cave in the Peak, but think it very much inferior to this: and Lord Kingſborough, who has viewed the Grot d'Aucel in Burgundy, ſays that it is not to be compared with it.

But the commanding region of the Galties deſerves more attention. Thoſe who are fond of ſcenes in which nature reigns in all her wild magnificence, ſhould viſit this ſtupendous chain. It conſiſts of many vaſt mountains, thrown together in an aſſemblage of the moſt intereſting features, from boldneſs and height of the declivities, freedom of outline, and variety of parts; filling a ſpace of about ſix miles by three or four. Galtymore is the higheſt point, and riſes like the lord and father of the ſurrounding progeny. From the top you look down upon a great extent of mountain, which ſhelves away from him to the ſouth, eaſt, and weſt; but to the north, the ridge is almoſt a perpendicular declivity. On that ſide the famous golden vale of Limerick and Tipperary ſpreads a rich level to the eye, bounded by the mountains of Clare, King's and Queen's counties, with the courſe of the Shannon, for many miles below Limerick. To the ſouth you look over alternate ridges of mountains, which riſe one beyond another, till in a clear day the eye meets the ocean near Dungarvon. The mountains of Waterford and Knockmaldown fill up the ſpace to the ſouth-eaſt. The weſtern is the moſt extenſive view; for nothing ſtops the eye till Mangerton and Macgilly Cuddy's Reeks point out the ſpot where Killarney's lake calls for a farther excurſion. The proſpect extends into eight counties, Corke, Kerry, Waterford, Limerick, Clare, Queen's, Tipperary, King's.

A little to the weſt of this proud ſummit, below it in a very extraordinary hollow, is a circular lake of two acres, reported to be unfathomable. The deſcriptions which I have read of the craters of exhauſted volcanoes, leave very little doubt of this being one; and the conical regularity of the ſummit of Galtymore ſpeaks the ſame language. Eaſt of this *reſpectable* hill, to uſe Sir William Hamilton's language, is a declivity of about one quarter of a mile, and there Galtybeg riſes in a yet more regular cone, and between the two hills is another lake, which from poſition ſeems to have been once the crater which threw up Galtybeg, as the firſt mentioned was the origin of Galtymore. Beyond the former hill is a third lake, and eaſt of that another hill; I was told of a fourth, with another correſponding mountain. It is only the mere ſummit of theſe mountains which riſe above the lakes. Speaking of them *below*, they may be ſaid to be on the tops of the hills; they are all of them at the bottom of an almoſt regularly circular hollow. On the ſide, next the mountain top, are walls of perpendicular rocks, in regular ſtrata, and ſome of them piled on each other, with an appearance of art rather than nature. In theſe rocks the eagles, which are ſeen in numbers on the Galties, have their neſts. Suppoſing the mountains to be of volcanic origin, and theſe lakes the craters, of which I have not a doubt; they are objects of the greateſt curioſity, for there is an unuſual regularity in every conſiderable ſummit, having its correſponding crater; but without this circumſtance the ſcenery is intereſting in a very great degree. The mountain ſummits, which are often wrapped in the clouds, at other times exhibit the freeſt outline; the immenſe ſcooped hollows which ſink at your feet, declivities of ſo vaſt a depth as to give one terror to look down; with the unuſual forms of the lower region of hills, particularly Bull hill, and Round hill, each a mile over, yet riſing out of circular vales, with the regularity or ſemi-globes unite upon the whole, to exhibit a ſcenery to the eye, in which the parts are of a magnitude ſo commanding; a character ſo intereſting, and a variety ſo ſtriking, that they well deſerve to be examined by every curious traveller.

Nor are theſe immenſe outlines the whole of what is to be ſeen in this great range of mountains. Every Glen has its beauties; there is a conſiderable mountain river, or rather torrent in every one of them; but the greateſt are the Funcheon, between Sefang and Galtymore; the Limeſtone river, between Galtymore and Round hill, and the Grouſe river, between Coolegarranroe, and Mr. O'Callaghan's mountain; theſe preſent to the eye, for a tract of about three miles, every variety that rock, water, and mountain can give, thrown into all the fantaſtic forms which art may attempt in ornamented grounds, but always fails in. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the water, when not diſcoloured by rain, its lucid tranſparency ſhews, at conſiderable depths, every pebble no bigger than a pin, every rocky baſon alive with trout and eels, that play and daſh among the rocks, as if endowed with that native vigour which animate, in a ſuperior degree, every inhabitant of the mountains, from the bounding red deer, and the ſoaring eagle, down even to the fiſhes of the brook. Every five minutes you have a waterfall in theſe glens, which in any other region, would ſtop every traveller to admire it. Sometimes the vale takes a gentler declivity, and preſents to the eye at one ſtroke, twenty or thirty falls, which render the ſcenery all alive with the motion; the rocks are toſſed about in the wildeſt confuſion, and the torrent burſts by turns from above, beneath, and under them; while the back ground is always filled up with the mountains which ſtretch around.

In the weſtern Glen is the fineſt caſcade in all the Galties; there are two falls, with a baſon in the rock between, but from ſome points of view they appear one: the rock over which the water tumbles is about ſixty feet high. A good line in which to view theſe objects is either to take the Killarney and Mallow road, to Mitchelſtown, and from thence by Lord Kingſborough's new one, to Skeheenrinky, there to take one of the Glens, to Galtybeg, and Galtymore, and return to Mitchelſtown by the Wolf's track, Temple hill, and the Waterfall: or, if the Corke road is travelling, to make Dobbin's inn, at Ballyporeen, the head quarters, and view them from thence.

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Having heard much of the beauties of a part of the Queen's county, I had not before ſeen, I took that line of country in my way on a journey to Dublin.

From Mitchelſtown to Caſhel, the road leads as far as Galbally in the route already travelled from Cullen; towards Caſhel the country is various. The only object deſerving attention, are the plantations of Thomaſtown, the ſeat of Francis Mathew, Eſq; they conſiſt chiefly of hedge-row trees in double and treble rows, are well grown, and of ſuch extent as to form an uncommon woodland ſcene in Ireland. Found the widow Holland's Inn, at Caſhel, clean and very civil. Take the road to Urlingford. The rich ſheep paſtures, part of the famous golden vale, reach between three and four miles, from Caſhel to the great bog by Botany Hill, noted for producing a greater variety of plants than common. That bog is ſeparated by only ſmall tracts of land, from the ſtring of bogs which extend through the Queen's County, from the great bog of Allen; it is here of conſiderable extent, and exceedingly improvable. Then enter a low marſhy bad country, which grows worſe after paſſing the 66th mile ſtone, and ſucceſſive bogs in it. Breakfaſt at Johnſtown, a regular village on a ſlight a ſlight eminence, built by Mr. Hayley; it is near the Spaw of Ballyſpellin. Rows of trees are planted; but their heads all cut off, I ſuppoſe from their not thriving, being planted too old. Immediately on leaving theſe planted avenues, enter a row of eight or ten new cabbins, at a diſtance from each other, which appear to be a new undertaking, the land about them all pared and burnt, and the aſhes in heaps.

Enter a fine planted country, with much corn and good thriving quick hedges for many miles. The road leads through a large wood, which joins Lord Aſhbrook's plantations, whoſe houſe is ſituated in the midſt of more wood than almoſt any one I have ſeen in Ireland. Paſs Durrow; the country for two or three miles continues all incloſed with fine quick hedges, is beautiful, and has ſome reſemblance to the beſt parts of Eſſex. Sir Robert Staple's improvements join this fine tract; they are completed in a moſt perfect manner, the hedges well-grown; cut, and in ſuch excellent order, that I can ſcarcely believe myſelf to be in Ireland. His gates are all of iron. Theſe ſylvan ſcenes continue through other ſeats beautifully ſituated, amidſt gentle declivities of the fineſt verdure, full grown woods, excellent hedges, and a pretty river winding by the houſe. The whole environs of ſeveral would be admired in the beſt parts of England.

Croſs a great bog, within ſight of Lord de Veſcey's plantations. The road leads over it, being

ing drained for that purpoſe by deep cuts on either ſide. I ſhould apprehend this bog to be among the moſt improvable in the country.

Slept at Ballyroan, at an inn kept by three animals, who call themſelves women; met with more impertinence than at any other in Ireland. It is an execrable hole. In three or four miles paſs Sir John Parnel's prettily ſituated in a neatly dreſſed lawn; with much wood about it, and a lake quite alive with wild fowl.

Paſs Monſtereven, and croſs directly a large bog, drained and partly improved; but all of it bearing graſs, and ſeems in a ſtate that might eaſily be reduced to rich meadow, with only a dreſſing of lime. Here I got again into the road I had travelled before.

I muſt in general remark, that from near Urlingford to Dawſon Court, near Monſtereven, which is completely acroſs the Queen's County, is a line of above thirty Engliſh miles, and is for that extent by much the moſt improved of any I have ſeen in Ireland. It is generally well planted, has many woods, and not conſiſting of patches of plantation juſt by gentlemen's houſes, but ſpreading over the whole face of the country, ſo as to give it the richneſs of an Engliſh woodland ſcene. What a country would Ireland be had the inhabitants of the reſt of it improved the whole like this.

END OF PART I.

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible]

[illegible] and a [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] it [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] drawing of lines. Then I got again into the [illegible] I had [illegible]

I think, in general [illegible], that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] which is [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] I have [illegible] generally well [illegible] not [illegible] of [illegible] but [illegible] the whole [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] a country would [illegible] by and its inhabitants of the soil if they [illegible] the hill.

END OF PART I.

A

TOUR, &c.

PART II.

Obſervations on the preceding Intelligence.

TO regiſter the minutes received upon ſuch a journey as this, and leave them ſimply to ſpeak for themſelves, would have its uſe; but it would leave to the inquiſitive reader ſo much labour and trouble in collecting general facts, that not one in five hundred would attempt it. That it is a matter of importance to have accurate general ideas of a country, inſtead of erroneous ones, will hardly be diſputed; no books of geography but ſpeak generally of ſoil, climate, product, rental, population, *&c.* but they are too often mere gueſſes; or, if founded at all, the facts that ſupport them of too old a date to yield the leaſt truth at preſent in points ſubject to change. When one country is mentioned in another it is uſually in general terms: and by compariſon, *England has not ſo rich a ſoil as Ireland. Products in England larger than in France. Rents higher in Ireland than in Scotland.* A thouſand inſtances might be produced, in which ideas of this ſort are particularized, and in which general errors are often found the cauſe of political meaſures, even of the higheſt conſequence. That my Engliſh tours give *exact* information relative to England, I cannot aſſert; but I may venture to ſay, that they are the only information extant, relative to the rental, produce, ſtock of that country, which are taken from an actual examination: I wiſh to offer equal information relative to our ſiſter iſland; and I am encouraged to do it, not only from my own ideas, but the opinions of many perſons with whom I have either correſponded or converſed from moſt parts of Europe, including ſome of the moſt reſpectable for abilities and rank.

SECTION I.

Extent of Ireland.

IN order to know the conſequence and relative importance of any country, it is neceſſary to be acquainted with its extent; I have reaſon to believe that that of Ireland is not accurately known. I inſert the following table of the acres of each county, plantation meaſure, becauſe there are ſeveral obſervations to be made on it.

		Acres.
Ulſter—	Antrim,	383,020
	Armagh,	170,620
	Cavan,	274,800
	Down,	344,658
	Donnegal,	630,157
	Fermanagh,	224,807
	Londonder.	251,510
	Monaghan,	170,090
	Tyrone,	387,175
Total,	-	2,836,837
Leinſter,—	Carlow,	116,900
	Dublin,	123.784
	Kildare,	228,590
	Kilkenny,	287,650
	King's Co.	257,510
	Longford,	134,700
	Louth,	111,180
	Meath,	326,480
	Queen's Co.	238,415
	Weſtmeath,	249,943
	Wexford,	315,396
	Wicklow,	252.410
Total,	-	2,642,958
Munſter,—	Clare,	428,187
	Corke,	991,010
	Kerry,	636,905
	Limerick,	375,320
	Tipperary,	599,500
	Waterford,	259,010
Total,	-	3,289,932
Conaug.—	Galway,	775,525
	Leitrim,	206,830
	Mayo,	724,640
	Roſcomm.	324,370
	Sligo,	241,550
Total,	-	2,272,915
In all Ireland,		11,042,642

Gerard Malines makes the acres of Ireland eighteen millions: (*Lex Mercatoria*, part 1. p. 49) I ſuppoſe Engliſh meaſure, which is eleven millions Iriſh; theſe two accounts flow therefore from the ſame ſource. Templeman's meaſurement gives it 27,457 ſquare miles, or 17,572,480 acres (*Survey of the globe*) Engliſh on a ſcale of 60 miles to a degree, but conſequently it is profeſſedly erroneous, as a degree is 69½; according to this meaſure therefore, the contents in real acres would be 20,354,789 Engliſh, and 12,721,743 Iriſh. Theſe accounts come ſo nearly together, that they are all drawn from ſimilar data; that is, from old maps. Newer ones have many blunders; but as no late actual ſurvey has been made of the kingdom, we muſt depend on the authority we find.

SECTION II.

Soil, Face of the Country and Climate.

TO judge of Ireland by the converſation one ſometimes hears in England, it would be ſuppoſed that one half of it was covered with bogs, and the other with mountains filed with Iriſh ready to fly at the ſight of a civilized being. There are people who will ſmile when they hear that in proportion, to the ſize of the two countries, Ireland is more cultivated than England, having much leſs waſte land of all ſorts. Of uncultivated mountains there are no ſuch tracts as are found in our four northern counties, and the North Riding of Yorkſhire, with the eaſtern line of Lancaſter, nearly down to the Peak of Derby, which form an extent of above an hundred miles of waſte. The moſt conſiderable of this ſort in Ireland are in Kerry, Galway, and Mayo, and ſome in Sligo and Donnegal. But all theſe together will not make the quantity we have in the four northern counties; the vallies in the Iriſh mountains are alſo more inhabited, I think, than thoſe of England, except where there are mines, and conſequently ſome ſort of cultivation creeping up the ſides. Natural fertility, acre for acre over the two kingdoms, is certainly in favour of Ireland; of this I believe there can ſcarcely be a doubt entertained, when it is conſidered that ſome of the more beautiful, and even beſt cultivated countries in England, owe almoſt every thing to the capital art and induſtry of the inhabitants.

The circumſtance which ſtrikes me as the greateſt ſingularity of Ireland, is the rockyneſs of the ſoil, which ſhould ſeem at firſt ſight againſt that degree of fertility; but the contrary is the fact. Stone is ſo general, that I have great reaſon to believe the whole iſland is one vaſt rock of different ſtrata and kinds riſing out of the ſea. I have rarely heard of any great depths being ſunk without meeting with it. In general it appears on the ſurface in every part of the kingdom, the flatteſt and moſt fertile parts, as Limerick, Tipperary and Meath, have it at no great depth, almoſt as much as the more barren ones. May we not recognize in this the hand of bounteous providence, which has given, perhaps, the moſt ſtoney ſoil in Europe to the moiſteſt climate in it? If as much rain fell upon the clays of England (a ſoil very rarely met with in Ireland, and never without much ſtone) as falls upon the rocks of her ſiſter iſland, thoſe lands could not be cultivated. But the rocks here are cloathed with verdure;—thoſe of lime ſtone with only a thin covering of mold, have the ſofteſt and moſt beautiful turf imaginable.

Of the great advantages reſulting from the general plenty of lime ſtone, and lime-ſtone gravel, and the nature of the bogs, I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak more particularly hereafter.

The rockyneſs of the ſoil in Ireland is ſo univerſal, that it predominates in every ſort. One cannot uſe with propriety, the terms clay, loam, ſand, &c. it muſt be a *ſtoney* clay, a *ſtoney* loam, a *gravelly* ſand. Clay, eſpecially the yellow, is much talked of in Ireland, but it is for want of proper diſcrimination. I have once or twice ſeen almoſt a pure clay upon the ſurface, but it is extremely rare. The true yellow clay, is uſually found in a thin ſtratum under the ſurface mould, and over a rock; harſh, tenacious, ſtoney, ſtrong loams, difficult to work, are not uncommon; but they are quite different from Engliſh clays.

Friable ſandy loams dry, but fertile, are very common, and they form the beſt ſoils in the kingdom, for tillage and ſheep. Tipperary, and Roſcommon, abound particularly in them. The moſt fertile of all, are the bullock paſtures of Limerick, and the banks of the Shannon in Clare, called the *Corcaſſes*. Theſe are a mellow, putrid, friable loam.

Sand, which is ſo common in England, and yet more common through Spain, France, Germany, and Poland, quite from Gibraltar to Peterſburgh, is no where met with in Ireland, except for narrow ſlips of hillocks, upon the ſea coaſt. Nor did I ever meet with, or hear of a chalky ſoil.

The bogs of which foreigners have heard ſo much, are very extenſive in Ireland; that of Allen extends 80 miles, and is computed to contain 300,000 acres. There are others alſo, very extenſive, and ſmaller ones ſcattered over the whole kingdom; but theſe are not in general more than are wanted for fuel. When I come to ſpeak of the improvement of waſte lands, I ſhall deſcribe them particularly.

Beſides the great fertility of the ſoil, there are other circumſtances, which come within my ſphere to mention. Few countries can be better watered, by large and beautiful rivers; and it is remarkable, that by much the fineſt parts of the kingdom, are on the banks of theſe rivers. Witneſs the Suer, Blackwater, the Liffy, the Boyne, the Nore, the Barrow, and part of the Shannon, they waſh a ſcenery that can hardly be exceeded. From the rockyneſs of the country however, there are few of them that have not obſtructions, which are great impediments to inland navigation.

The mountains of Ireland, give to travelling, that intereſting variety, which a flat country can never abound with. And at the ſame time, they are not in ſuch number as to confer the uſual character of poverty, which attends them. I was either upon or very near the moſt conſiderable in the kingdom. Mangerton, and the Reeks, in Kerry; the Galties in Corke; thoſe of Mourne in Down; Crow Patrick and Nephin in Mayo; theſe are the principal in Ireland, and they are of a character, in height aud ſublimity, which ſhould render them the objects of every traveller's attention.

Relative to the climate of Ireland, a ſhort reſidence cannot enable a man to ſpeak much from his own experience; the obſervations I have made myſelf, confirm the idea of its being vaſtly wetter than England; from the 20th of June, to the 20th of October, I kept a regiſter, and there were in 122 days, 75 of rain, and very many of them inceſſant and heavy. I have examined ſimilar regiſters I kept in England, and can find no year that even approaches to ſuch a moiſture as this. But there is the regiſter of an accurate diary publiſhed, which compares London and Corke. The reſult is, that the quantity at the latter place, was double to that of London. See *Smith's Hiſt. of Corke.*

From the information I received, I have reaſon to believe, that the rainy ſeaſon ſets in uſually about the firſt of July, and continues very wet till September or October, when there is uſually a dry fine ſeaſon of a month or ſix weeks. I reſided in the county of Corke, &c. from October till March, and found the winter much more ſoft and mild, than ever I experienced one in England. I was alſo a whole ſummer there (1778), and it is fair to mention, that it was as fine a one, as ever I knew in England, though by no means ſo hot. I think hardly ſo wet, as very many I have known in England. The tops of the Galty Mountains, exhibited the only ſnow we ſaw; and as to froſts, they were ſo ſlight and rare, that I believe myrtles, and yet tenderer plants, would have ſurvived without any covering. But when I ſay that the winter was not remarkable for being wet, I do not mean that we had a dry atmoſphere. The inches of rain which fell, in the winter I ſpeak of, would not mark the moiſture of the climate. As many inches will fall in a ſingle tropical ſhower, as in a whole year in England. See *Mitchel's Preſent State of Great Britain, and North America.* But if the clouds preſently diſperſe, and a bright ſun ſhines, the air may ſoon be dry. The worſt circumſtance of the climate of Ireland, is the conſtant moiſture without rain. Wet a piece of leather, and lay it in a room, where there is neither ſun nor fire, and it will not in ſummer even, be dry in a month *. I have known gentlemen in Ireland deny their climate being moiſter than England;—but if they have eyes let them open them, and ſee the verdure that cloathes their rocks, and compare it with ours in England—where rocky ſoils are of a ruſſet brown however ſweet the food for ſheep.

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* *I have had this happen myſelf with a pair of wet gloves.*

The myriads of flies alſo which buz about one's ears, and are ready to go in ſhoals into one's mouth at every word—and thoſe almoſt imperceptible flies called midges, which perfectly devour one in a wood, or near a river, prove the ſame thing.

Does not their iſland lye more expoſed to the great Atlantic, and does not the weſt wind blow three-fourths of a year? If there was another iſland yet more to the weſtward, would not the climate of Ireland be improved? Such perſons ſpeak equally againſt fact, reaſon, and philoſophy. That the moiſture of a climate does not depend on the quantity of rain that falls, but on the powers of aerial evaporation, Dr. Dobſon has clearly proved. *Phil. Tranſ.* Vol. lxvii. part i. p. 244.

SECTION III.

Rental.

NO country can ever be held in a juſt eſtimation when the rental of it is unknown. It is not the only circumſtance which a political arithmetician ſhould attend to, but it is a moſt important one. The value of a country is rarely the ſubject of a converſation without gueſſes at its rental being made, and compariſons between different ones. I contend for nothing more through this and the enſuing tables, than the ſuperiority of actual information on the ſpot, drawn into one point of view, over any gueſſes whatever. I ſhall therefore proceed at once to lay it before the reader.

Places.	*Rent per Acre.*	*Rent at Iriſh Acre*	*Riſe.*	*Fall.*	*Year's purchaſe of land.*	*Leaſes, years or lives.*
County of Dublin,			s. d.	s. d.	22	41 61 L.
Celbridge,	1 10 0				22	31 or L.
Dolleſtown,	1 1 0			5 0		
Summerhill,	1 0 0				23	
Slain Caſtle,	1 5 0				22½	31 or L.
Headfort,	1 0 0				21	
Drueſtown,	1 6 0					
Fore,	0 15 0					
Packenham Hall,	0 17 6			4 4	21	
Mullingar to Tulleſpace,	1 0 0					
Charleville,	0 16 0			4 0	20	
Shaen Caſtle,	0 13 0			5 0	20	
Athy to Carlow,	0 18 0					
Kilfaine,	0 15 6			2 0	21	21 31
Roſs to Taghmon,	0 15 0					
Bargie and Forth,	1 2 9		a little		23½	
Wexford to Wells,	0 11 0					
Wells to Gowry,	0 17 0					
Courtown,	0 17 6		none		22½	31 L.
New Town M. Kennedy,	2 0 0		8 0		19½	31 L.
Ditto Mountain,	0 8 0					
Kilrue,	1 2 0					

Hampton,

Places.	*Rent per Acre.*	*Rent at Iriſh Acre.*	*Riſe.*	*Fall.*	*Years purchaſe of land.*	*Leaſes, years or lives.*
Hampton,	1 5 0	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	20	
Cullen,	1 0 0					
Ravenſdale,	0 7 0					
Market-hill,	0 11 6	14 9				
Ardmagh,	0 10 0	13 0				
Armagh to Newry,	0 10 0	13 0				
To Dungannon,	0 11 0	14 0				
To Lurgan,	0 10 0	13 0				
Mahon,	0 13 6	17 4				
Down,	0 16 0	20 0				
To Belfaſt,	0 16 0	20 0				
Caſtle Hill,	0 15 0	9 0				
Ards,	0 10 6	13 6				
Lecale,	1 0 0					
Redemon to Saintfield,	0 10 6	13 6				
Belfaſt,	0 13 0	17 0				
Belfaſt to Antrim,	0 8 0	10 0				
Shanes Caſtle,	0 8 0	10 0			21	31 L.
Leſly Hill,	0 12 0	15 0	3 0		21	
Near Giants Cauſway,	0 12 0	15 0				
Colrain,	0 10 6					
Mewtown Limm.	0 10 0	13 0	1 6			
Clonleigh county,	0 17 6	21 6			25	L.
Mount Charles,	0 10 0				21½	
Caſtle Caldwell,	0 17 6		2 0		22	
Inniſkilling,	0 11 0					
Ditto,	0 15 0					
Florence Court,	0 10 0					
Farnham,	0 17 0		5 6		22	
Granard,	1 1 0					
Longford,	0 13 6		2 0		18½	
Strokeſtown,	1 5 0					
Elphin,	0 13 6					
Kingſton,	0 17 6					
Mercra,	0 15 0				20	31 L.
Tyrera,	0 14 6					
Ditto,	0 18 0					
Tyrawley,	0 17 0					
Foxford to Caſtlebar,	0 12 0					
Caſtlebar,	0 17 0					
Weſtport,	0 8 0			1 0	21½	21 31 L
Holymount,	0 13 6					
Moniva,	0 14 0				21	

Wood

Places.	*Rent per acre.*	*Rent at Iriſh acre.*	*Fall.*	*Year's purchaſe of land.*	*Leaſes, years or lives.*
Wood Lawn,	0 16 0	s. d.	s. d.		
Drumoland Corcaſſes,	1 0 0			20	
Limerick,			8 0	20	
Anſgrove,	0 15 0		2 6	20	31 L.
Orrery,	1 10 0				
Fermoy,	0 13 0				
Duhallow,	0 7 0				
Condons and Clangibbons,	0 15 0				
Barrymore,	0 7 0	11 0			
Barrets,	0 4 0	6 0			
Muſhery,	0 4 0	6 0			
Kinclea,	0 14 0	22 0			
Kerrycurrity,	0 10 0	16 0			
Courcy's,	0 10 0	16 0			
Mallow,	0 12 0	19 0			31 L.
Caſtle Martyr,				25	
Imokilly,	0 12 0	19 0			
Kilnatalton,	0 8 0	12 0			
Coolmore,	0 14 0	22 0			
Killarney,	0 8 0				
Caſtle Iſſand to Tralee,	1 7 0				
Mahagree,	0 14 6			17	
Tarbat,	0 14 0				
Adair,	1 0 0				
Caſtle Oliver,	0 12 0		3 0		
100,000 acres in Limerick,	1 10 0				
20 miles ſheep-land Tipperary,	1 2 6		4 6	20	
Ballycavan,	0 15 0			19½	
Furneſs,	1 0 0				
Gloſter,	0 15 0		3 0	25	31 L.
Johnſtown,	1 0 0			20	31 L.
Derry,	0 15 0				
Cullen,	1 10 0			20	31 L.
Mitchel's Town,	0 2 6			20	21
Average,		16 6		21	
Average per Engliſh acre,		10 3			

The firſt column of rent is either plantation meaſure, Cunningham, or Engliſh; and the ſecond reduces the two laſt to plantation.

The Cunningham acre is reduced to the plantation meaſure as ſeven to nine, and the Engliſh as five to eight, which though not perfectly accurate is near it.

The following table contains the information I received relative to the general average rental of whole counties; and as there are ſeveral with more than one account, the medium of thoſe different accounts is given in a ſeparate column.

Counties.	*Different minutes.*	*Average.*	*Reduced to plantation.*	*Total rental of the County.*
Dublin,		1 11 6	1 11 6	L.194,959
Meath,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 5 0			
Ditto,	0 18 6			
		1 1 2	1 1 2	345,524
Weſtmeath,		0 7 0	0 7 0	87,480
King's County,	0 13 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
		0 12 9	0 12 9	164,161
Carlow,		0 15 0	0 15 0	87,675
Wexford,		0 15 0	0 15 0	236,547
Wicklow,		0 15 0	0 15 0	189,307
Louth,		1 1 0	1 1 0	116,739
Ardmagh,	0 8 0			
Ditto,	0 14 0			
		0 11 0	0 14 0	119,434
Down,	0 10 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
		0 10 0	0 12 10	221,154
Antrim,	0 5 6			
Ditto,	0 4 9			
		0 5 1½	0 6 6	124,481
Derry,	0 4 6			
Ditto,	0 4 0			
		0 4 3	0 5 6	69,164
Donnegal,	0 1 0			
Ditto,	0 1 0			
Ditto,	0 2 6			
		0 1 6	0 1 6	47,260
Fermanagh,		0 8 5	0 8 5	94,603
Cavan,	0 6 0			
Ditto,	0 7 6			
		0 6 9	0 6 9	92,745
Longford,		0 10 0	0 10 0	67,350
Leitrim,	0 4 0			
Ditto,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 1 4			
		0 2 5	0 2 5	24,990
Roſcommon,	0 11 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
		0 10 6	0 10 6	170,294

Sligo,

Counties.	*Different minutes.*	*Average.*	*Reduced to plantation.*	*Total rental of the County.*
Sligo,	0 12 6			
Ditto,	0 12 10			
Ditto,	0 10 10			
		0 12 0	0 12 0	144,930
Mayo,		0 8 0	0 8 0	289,856
Galway,		0 8 1	0 8 1	313,440
Clare,		0 5 0	0 5 0	107,046
Corke,	0 7 0			
Ditto,	0 3 1			
Ditto,	0 5 8			
Ditto,	0 5 4			
Ditto,	0 5 0			
		0 5 2	0 5 2	256,010
Kerry,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 2 11			
Ditto,	0 1 7			
Ditto,	0 4 10			
		0 2 10	0 2 10	90,226
Limerick,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 10 6			
		0 16 10	0 16 10	315,893
Tipperary,	0 16 3			
Ditto,	0 17 4			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
		0 16 6	0 16 6	494,587
Waterford,	0 5 0			
Ditto,	0 6 10			
		0 5 11	0 5 11	76,622
Kildare,		0 14 6	0 14 6	165,727
Tyrone,	0 4 0			
Ditto,	0 7 0			
		0 5 6	0 5 6	106,747

Since the journey I have procured the information for the following:

Kilkenny,		0 16 0	0 16 0	230,119
Monaghan,		0 11 0	0 11 0	93,549
Queen's,		0 13 0	0 13 0	154,968
	Total,	—	—	5,293,312
				11,042,642

11,042,642 plantation acres, giving the rent of 5,293,312l. is at the rate of 9s. 7d. *per* acre. The average of all the minutes made it 16s. 6d. from hence there is reaſon to imagine, that the line travelled was better than the medium of the kingdom; or on the contrary, that the ſuppoſitions of the rents *per* county are *under* the truth, the real rent of the kingdom, if it could be aſcertained, would probably be found rather to exceed than fall ſhort of ſix millions. Eſpecially as the rents upon which theſe particulars are drawn, were not thoſe paid by the occupying tenant, but a general average of all tenures; whereas the object one would aſcertain is the ſum paid by the occupier, including conſequently, not only the landlords rents, but the profit of the middle men.

But farther, as the computation that makes the total of 11,042,642 acres is profeſſedly erroneous above a ſeventh, being drawn from geographic miles, there ſhould be added above 700,000l. to this rental on that account.

The difference of money and meaſure included 35s. Iriſh makes juſt 20s. Engliſh. Suppoſe therefore the rental of Ireland 9s. 7d. per acre, it makes 5s. 6. Engliſh.

If Ireland is 10s. it would be 5s. 9d. Engliſh.

Suppoſe it 11s. or the total of ſix millions, it is per Engliſh acre 6s. 4d.

It is a curious diſquiſition to compare the rent of land in different countries, and to mark the various circumſtances to which the ſuperiority may be attributed. The rental of England has been pretty accurately aſcertained to be 13s. an acre[*]. Poor rates in the ſame 1s. 10½d. in the pound, or 1s. 2¼d. per acre. [||] The information I received in Ireland concerning the amount of the money raiſed for preſentments throughout the kingdom, made the total 140,000l. or 3d. an acre.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Landlords rent of Ireland, ——	0	9	7
Roads, — — —	0	0	3
	0	9	10
Rent of England, —— —	0	13	0
Rates, —— ——	0	1	2¼
	0	14	2¼
Iriſh acre and money makes ——	0	9	10
Which for an Engliſh acre and Engliſh money is	0	5	7

Inſtead

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[*] *Eaſtern Tour through England. Vol.* iv. *p.* 229.

[||] *The average of the Eaſtern and Northern Tours which make a total of* 1,926,666*l. By the returns laid before parliament it appeared to be actually* 1,720,316*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*; *but that return was incomplete,* Inſtead of which is 14s. 2½d. conſequently the proportion between the rent of land in England and Ireland is nearly as two to five: in other words, that ſpace of land which in Ireland lets for 2s. would in England produce 5s.

In this compariſon the value of land in England appear to be ſo much greater than it is in Ireland, that ſeveral circumſtances ſhould be conſidered. The idea I found common in Ireland upon that matter was, that rents there were *higher* than in England; but the extreme abſurdity of the notion aroſe from the difference of meaſure and money, the exact par being, as 20 to 35. As far as I can form a general idea of the ſoil of the two kingdoms, Ireland has much the advantage; and if I am accurate in this, ſurely a ſtronger argument cannot be uſed, to ſhew the immenſe importance of CAPITAL firſt in the hands of the landlords of a country, and then in that of the farmers. I have reaſon to believe that five pounds ſterling per Engliſh acre, expended over all Ireland, which amounts to 88,341,136l. would not more than build, fence, plant, drain, and improve that country to be upon a par in thoſe reſpects with England. And farther, that if thoſe 88 millions were ſo expended, it would take much above 20 millions more (or above 20s. an acre) in the hands of the farmers in ſtock of huſbandry, to put them on an equal footing with thoſe of her ſiſter kingdom; nor is this calculation ſo vague as it might at firſt ſight appear, ſince the expences of improvements and ſtock are very eaſily eſtimated in both countries. This is the reſolution of that ſurpriſing inferiority in the rent of Ireland: the Engliſh farmer pays a rent for his land in the ſtate he finds it, which includes, not only the natural fertility of the ſoil, but the immenſe expenditure which national wealth has in the progreſs of time poured into it; but the Iriſhman finds nothing he can afford to pay a rent for, but what the bounty of God has given, unaided by either wealth or induſtry. The ſecond point is of equal conſequence—when the land is to be let, the rent it will bring muſt depend on the capability of the cultivators to make it productive, if they have but half the capital they ought to be poſſeſſed of, how is it poſſible they ſhould be able to offer a rent proportioned to the rates of another country, in which a variety of cauſes have long directed a ſtream of abundant wealth into the purſes of her farmers?

Theſe facts call for one very obvious reflection, which will often recur in the progreſs of theſe papers: the conſequen-

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incomplete, for there are very many pariſhes named, from which, through neglect, no returns were made. I may remark that this fact is a ſtrong confirmation of the truth of the data upon which I formed theſe calculations, the above ſum coming vaſtly nearer to the truth afterwards aſcertained by parliament, than any other calculation or conjecture which ever found its way into print.

The roads of England are a very heavy article; I conjecture much heavier than in Ireland, but I have no data whereby to aſcertain the amount.

ces of it are felt in Ireland; but I am ſorry to ſay, very ill underſtood in England: that portion of national wealth which is employed in the improvement of the lands of a ſtate is the beſt employed for the general welfare of a country; while trade and manufactures, national funds, banking, &c. ſwallow up prodigious ſums in England, but yield a profit of not above 5 to 10 per cent; the lands of Ireland are unimproved, upon which money would pay 15 to 20 per cent. excluſive of a variety of advantages which muſt ſtrike the moſt ſuperficial reader.—Hence the vaſt importance to *England* of the improvement of her Iriſh territory. It is an old obſervation, that the wealth of Ireland will always center in England; and the fact is true, though not in the way commonly aſſerted: No employment of 100 millions, not upon the actual ſoil of Britain, can ever pay her a tenth of the advantage which would reſult from Ireland being in the above reſpects upon that par which I have deſcribed with England. The more attentively this matter is conſidered, I am apt to think the more clearly this will appear; and that whenever old illiberal jealouſies are worn out, which, thanks to the good ſenſe of the age, are daily diſappearing, we ſhall be fully convinced, that the benefit of Ireland is ſo intimately connected with the good of England, that we ſhall be as forward to give to that hitherto unhappy country, as ſhe can be to receive, from the firm conviction, that whatever we thus ſow will yield to us a moſt abundant harveſt.

SECTION IV.

Products.

THE products per acre were, in every place, an object of my enquiries. The following table will at one view ſhew what they are in moſt parts of the kingdom.

Places.	*Wheat, Barrels.*	*Barley, Barrels.*	*Oats, Barrels.*	*Bere, Barrels.*
Dublin,	8		16	
Celbridge,	7		14	
Dolleſtown,	7		13	13½
Summerſhill,	6		10	
Slaine,	7		16	
Headfort,	7		12	
Packenham,	7		10	15½
Tullamore,	5½		12½	16
Shaens Caſtle,	5½	13	11½	13
Near Athy,	8	15	17½	
Athy to Carlow,	5½			
Near Carlow,		14	12	
Kilfane,	6	10	8	10
Bargie,		9	9	
Ditto,	8½	12		

Places.	*Wheat, Barrels.*	*Barley, Barrels.*	*Oats, Barrels.*	*Bere, Barrels.*
Bargy and Forth,	15	12½	11	
Wells,		6	7½	
Courtown,	8	9	9	
M. Kennedy,	8		10	
Kilrue,	11½	11½	14½	
Hampton,	7	11	10	
Louth,	6	15	15	
Mahon,	5		6	
Ards,	7			
Lecale,	7	10	12	
Shaens Caſtle,	6		8	
Newtown Limm.		9		
Inniſhoen,		8	7	
Clonleigh,		10	8½	
Caſtle Caldwell,		10	12	
Belleiſle,		12½	8	
Florence Court,		8	12	
Farnham,	7	9	10	
Longford,		12	15	10
Strokeſtown,	6	9	10	
Ballymoat,	6½		10	
Mercra,	6	14	10	
Tyrera,		13½	10	
Ditto,		15	10	
Weſtport,			12	
Holymount,	6		9	9
Moniva,			8	
Woodlawn,	8	12	12	
Drumoland,	6½	12	12	
Anſgrove,	7			
Mallow,	8		12	12
Dunkettle,	8½			
Adair,	9		14	10
Caſtle Oliver,	12		15	
Tipperary,	12	15	14	27
Ballycanvan,	8	14	12	
Furneſs,	7		9	
Gloſter,	6	16	13	17
Johnſtown,	7		12	16
Derry,	8		11½	15
Cullen,	10	20	18	20
Mitchel's Town,			11½	
Cunningham acre reduced.				
Mahon,	6½		7¾	
Ards,	9			
Shaens Caſtle,	7¾		10	
Engliſh acre reduced.				
Mallow,	12		19	19
Dunkettle,	13			
Averages,	7½	11½	11½	14

Theſe quantities per Engliſh acre are:

	Qrs.	*Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
Wheat	2	2	3
Barley	3	4	3
Oats	3	4	3
Bere	4	3	0

The averages of the Farmer's Tour through the Eaſt of England were:

	Qrs.	*Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	6	0

Of the Six Months Tour through the North of England:

	Qrs.	*Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	4	0

The products upon the whole are much inferior to thoſe of England, though not more ſo than I ſhould have expected; not from inferiority of ſoil, but the extreme inferiority of management. They are not to be conſidered as points whereon to found a full compariſon of the two countries; ſince a ſmall crop of wheat in England, gained after beans, clover, &c. would be of much more importance than a larger one in Ireland by a fallow: And this remark extends to other crops.

Tillage in Ireland is very little underſtood. In the greateſt corn counties, ſuch as Louth, Kildare, Carlow and Kilkenny, where are to be ſeen many very fine crops of wheat, all is under the old ſyſtem, exploded by good farmers in England, of ſowing wheat upon a fallow, and ſucceeding it with as many crops of ſpring corn as the ſoil will bear. Where they do beſt by their land, it is only two of barley or oats before the fallow returns again, which is ſomething worſe than the open field management in England, of 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. oats; to which, while the fields are open and common, the farmers are by cruel neceſſity tied down. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin has increaſed tillage very conſiderably, but it has no where introduced any other ſyſtem. And to this extreme bad management of adopting the exploded practice of a century ago, inſtead of turneps and clover, it is owing, that Ireland, with a ſoil, acre for acre, much better than England, has its products inferior.

But keeping cattle of every ſort, is a buſineſs ſo much more adapted to the lazineſs of the farmer, that it is no wonder the tillage is ſo bad. It is every where left to the cottars, or to the very pooreſt of the farmers, who are all utterly unable to make thoſe exertions, upon which alone a vigorous culture of the earth can be founded; and were it not for potatoes, which neceſſarily prepare for corn, there would not be half of what we ſee at preſent. While it is in ſuch hands, no wonder tillage is reckoned ſo unprofitable; profit in all undertakings depends on capital, and is it any wonder that the profit ſhould be ſmall when the capital is nothing at all? Every man that has one gets into cattle, which will give him an idle, lazy, ſuperintendence, inſtead of an active attentive one.

That the *ſyſtem* of tillage has improved very little, much as it has been extended in the laſt fourteen years, there is great reaſon to believe, from the very ſmall increaſe in the import of clover ſeed, which would have doubled and trebled, had tillage got into the train it ought. This the following table proves.

Import of Clover ſeed.

		Cwt.
In the year 1764	—	2990
1765	—	2798
1766	—	3654
1767	—	1479
1768	—	4476
1769	—	2483
1770	—	5563
Average of ſeven years	—	3349
1771	—	4083
1772	—	2956
1773	—	2820
1774	—	3085
1775	—	3910
1776	—	4648
1777	—	5988
Average of ſeven years *.	—	3927

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* *Taken from the Records of imports and exports kept by order of the Houſe of Commons.*

SECTION V.

Of the Tenantry of Ireland.

IT has been probably owing to the ſmall value of land in Ireland before, and even through a conſiderable part of the preſent century, that landlords became ſo careleſs of the intereſts of poſterity, as readily to grant their tenants leaſes for ever. It might alſo be partly owing to the unfortunate civil wars, and other inteſtine diviſions, which for ſo long a ſpace of time kept that unhappy country in a ſtate rather of devaſtation than improvement. When a caſtle, or a fortified houſe, and a family ſtrong enough for a garriſon, were eſſentially neceſſary to the ſecurity of life and property among proteſtants, no man could occupy land unleſs he had ſubſtance for defence as well as cultivation; ſhort, or even determinable tenures were not encouragement enough for ſettling in ſuch a ſituation of warfare. To increaſe the force of an eſtate leaſes for ever were given of lands, which from their waſte ſtate were deemed of little value. The practice once become common, continued long after the motives which originally gave riſe to it, and has not yet ceaſed entirely in any part of the kingdom. Hence, therefore, tenants holding large tracts of land under a leaſe for ever, and which have been relet to a variety of under-tenants, muſt in this enquiry be conſidered as landlords.

The obvious diſtinction to be applied is, that of the occupying and unoccupying tenantry: in other words, the real farmer, and the middle man. The very idea, as well as the practice, of permitting a tenant to relet at a profit rent, ſeems confined to the diſtant and unimproved parts of every empire. In the highly cultivated counties of England the practice has no exiſtence, but there are traces of it in the extremities; in Scotland it has been very common; and I am informed that the ſame obſervation is partly applicable to France. In proportion as any country becomes improved the practice neceſſarily wears out.

It is in Ireland a queſtion greatly agitated, whether the ſyſtem has or has not advantages, which may yet induce a landlord to continue in it. The friends to this mode of letting lands contend, that the extreme poverty of the lower claſſes renders them ſuch an inſecure tenantry, that no gentleman of fortune can depend on the leaſt punctuality in the payment of rent from ſuch people; and therefore to let a large farm to ſome intermediate perſon of ſubſtance, at a lower rent, in order that the profit may be his inducement and reward for becoming a collector from the immediate occupiers, and anſwerable for their punctuality, becomes neceſſary to any perſon who will not ſubmit to the drudgery of ſuch a minute attention. Alſo, that ſuch a man will at leaſt improve a ſpot around his own reſidence, whereas the mere cottar can do nothing. If the intermediate tenant is, or from the accumulation of ſeveral farms becomes, a man of property, the ſame argument is applicable to his reletting to another intermediate man, giving up a part of his profit to eſcape that trouble, which induced the landlord to begin this ſyſtem, and at the ſame time accounts for the number of tenants, one under another, who have all a profit out of the rent of the occupying farmer. In the variety of converſations on this point, of which I have partook in Ireland, I never heard any other arguments that had the leaſt foundation in the actual ſtate of the country; for as to ingenious theories, which relate more to what might be, than to what is, little regard ſhould be paid to them.

That a man of ſubſtance, whoſe rent is not only ſecure, but regularly paid, is in many reſpects a more eligible tenant than a poor cottar, or little farmer, cannot be diſputed, if the landlord looks no farther than thoſe circumſtances the queſtion is at an end, for the argument muſt be allowed to have its full weight even to victory. But there are many other conſiderations: I was particularly attentive to every claſs of tenants throughout the kingdom, and ſhall therefore deſcribe theſe middle men, from whence their merit may be the more eaſily decided. Sometimes they are reſident on a part of the land, but very often they are not. Dublin, Bath, London, and the country towns of Ireland, contain great numbers of them; the merit of this claſs is ſurely aſcertained in a moment; there cannot be a ſhadow of a pretence for the intervention of a man, whoſe ſingle concern with an eſtate is to deduct a portion from the rent of it. They are however ſometimes reſident on a part of the land they hire, where it is natural to ſuppoſe they would work ſome improvements; it is however very rarely the caſe. I have in different parts of the kingdom ſeen farms juſt fallen in after leaſes of three lives, of the duration of fifty, ſixty, and even ſeventy years, in which the reſidence of the principal tenant was not to be diſtinguiſhed from the cottared fields ſurrounding it. I was at firſt much ſurprized at this, but after repeated obſervation, I found theſe men very generally were the maſters of packs of wretched hounds, with which they waſted their time and money, and it is a notorious fact, that they are the hardeſt drinkers in Ireland. Indeed the claſs of the ſmall country gentlemen, chiefly conſiſting of theſe profit renters, ſeem at preſent to monopolize that drinking ſpirit, which was, not many years ago, the diſgrace of the kingdom at large: this I conjecture to be the reaſon why thoſe who might improve are ſo very far from doing it; but there are ſtill greater objections to them.

Living upon the ſpot, ſurrounded by their little undertenants, they prove the moſt oppreſſive ſpecies of tyrant that ever lent aſſiſtance to the deſtruction of a country. They relet the land, at ſhort tenures, to the occupiers of ſmall farms; and often give no leaſes at all. Not ſatisfied with ſcrewing up the rent to the uttermoſt farthing, they are rapacious and relentleſs in the collection of it. Many of them have defended themſelves in converſation with me, upon the plea of taking their rents, partly in kind, when their undertenants are much diſtreſſed: "What," ſay they, "would the head landlord, "ſuppoſe him a great nobleman, do with a miſerable cottar, "who, diſappointed in the ſale of a heifer, a few barrels of "corn, or firkins of butter, brings his five inſtead of his ten "guineas? But we can favour him by taking his commodities "at a fair price, and wait for reimburſement until the market "riſes. Can my lord do that?" A very common plea, but the moſt unfortunate that could be uſed to any one whoever remarked that portion of human nature which takes the garb of an Iriſh land jobber! For upon what iſſue does this remark place the queſtion? Does it not acknowledge, that calling for their rents, when they cannot be paid in caſh, they take the ſubſtance of the debtor at the very moment when he can not ſell it to another? Can it be neceſſary to aſk what the price is? It is at the option of the creditor; and the miſerable culprit meets his oppreſſion, perhaps his ruin in the very action that is trumpeted as a favour to him. It may ſeem harſh to attribute a want of feeling to any claſs of men; but let not the reader miſapprehend me; it is the *ſituation*, not the *man*, that I condemn. An injudicious ſyſtem places a great number of perſons, not of any liberal rank in life, in a ſtate abounding with a variety of opportunities of oppreſſion, every act of which is profitable to themſelves. I am afraid it is human nature for men to fail in ſuch poſts; and I appeal to the experience of mankind, in other lines of life, whether it is ever found advantageous to a poor debtor to ſell his products, or wares, to his richer creditor, at the moment of demand.

But farther; the dependance of the occupier on the reſident middle man goes to other circumſtances, perſonal ſervice of themſelves, their cars and horſes, is exacted for leading turf, hay, corn, gravel, &c. inſomuch that the poor undertenants often loſe their own crops and turf, from being obliged to obey theſe calls of their ſuperiors. Nay, I have even heard theſe jobbers gravely aſſert, that without undertenants to furniſh cars and teams at half or two-thirds the common price of the country, they could carry on no improvements at all; yet taking a merit to themſelves for works wrought out of the ſweat and ruin of a pack of wretches, aſſigned to their plunder by the inhumanity of the landholders.

In a word, the caſe is reducible to a ſhort compaſs; intermediate tenants work no improvements; if non-reſident they *cannot*, and if reſident they *do not*; but they oppreſs the occupiers, and render them as incapable as they are themſelves unwilling. The kingdom is an aggregate proof of theſe facts; for if long leaſes, at low rents, and profit incomes given, would have improved it, Ireland had long ago been a garden. It remains to enquire, whether the landlord's ſecurity is a full recompence for ſo much miſchief.

But here it is proper to obſerve, that though the intermediate man is generally better ſecurity than the little occupier; yet it is not from thence to be concluded, as I have often heard it, that the latter is beyond all compariſon beneath him in this reſpect: the contrary is often the caſe; and I have known the fact, that the landlord, diſappointed of his rent, has *drove* (diſtrained) the undertenants for it at a time when they had actually paid it to the middle man. If the profit rent is ſpent, as it very generally is in claret and hounds, the notion of good ſecurity will prove viſionary, as many a landlord in Ireland has found it: ſeveral very conſiderable ones have aſſured me, that the little occupiers were the *beſt* pay they had on their eſtates; and the intermediate *gentlemen* tenants by much the *worſt*.

By the minutes of the journey it appears, that a very conſiderable part of the kingdom, and the moſt enlightened landlords in it, have diſcarded this injurious ſyſtem, and let their farms to none but the occupying tenantry; their experience has proved, that the apprehenſion of a want of ſecurity was merely ideal, finding their rents much better paid than ever. At the laſt extremity, it is the occupier's ſtock which is the real ſecurity of the landlord. It is that he diſtrains, and finds abundantly more valuable than the laced hat, hounds and piſtols of the gentleman jobber, from whom he is more likely in ſuch a caſe to receive a *meſſage*, than a remittance.

And here let me obſerve, that a defence of intermediate tenants has been founded upon the circumſtance of leſſening the remittance of abſentee rents; the profit of the middle man was ſpent in Ireland; whereas upon his diſmiſſion the whole is remitted to England. I admit this to be an evil, but it appears to be in no degree proportioned to the miſchiefs I have dwelt on. It is always to be remembered, that in the arrangement of landed property, the *produce* is the great object; the ſyſtem of letting, which encourages moſt the occupying tenant, will always be the moſt advantageous to the community. I think I have proved that the middle man oppreſſes the cottar, incomparably more than the principal landlord; to the one he is uſually tenant at will, or at leaſt under ſhort terms, but under the other has the moſt advantageous tenure. This ſingle point, that the perſon moſt favoured is in one inſtance an idle burthen, and in the other the induſtrious occupier, ſufficiently decides the ſuperiority. To look therefore at the rent, after it is paid, is to put the queſtion on a wrong iſſue; the payment of that rent, by means of ample products, ariſing from animated induſtry, is the only point deſerving attention; and I had rather the whole of it ſhould go to the antipodes, than exact it in a manner that ſhall cramp that induſtry, and leſſen thoſe products.

When therefore it is conſidered, that no advantages to the eſtate can ariſe from a non-reſident tenant, and that a reſident intermediate one improves no more than the poor occupiers who are prevented by his oppreſſions, that the landlord often gains little or nothing in ſecurity from employing them, but that he ſuffers a prodigious deduction in his rental for mere expectations, which every hour's experience proves to be deluſive. When theſe facts are duly weighed, it is preſumed, that the gentlemen in thoſe parts of the kingdom, which yet groans under ſuch a ſyſtem of abſurdity, folly and oppreſſion, will follow the example ſet by ſuch a variety of intelligent landlords, and be deaf to the deceitful aſſeverations with which their ears are aſſailed, to treat the anecdotes retailed of the cottar's poverty, with the contempt they deſerve, when coming from the mouth of a jobber; when theſe bloodſuckers of the poor tenantry boaſt of their own improvements, to open their eyes and view the ruins which are dignified by ſuch a term, and finally determine, as friends to themſelves, to their poſterity and their country, TO LET THEIR ESTATES TO NONE BUT THE OCCUPYING TENANTRY.

Having thus deſcribed the tenants that ought to be rejected, let me next mention the circumſtances of the occupiers. The variety of theſe is very great in Ireland. In the North, where the linen manufacture has ſpread, the farms are ſo ſmall, that ten acres in the occupation of one perſon is a large one, five or ſix will be found a good farm, and all the agriculture of the country ſo entirely ſubſervient to the manufacture, that they no more deſerve the name of farmers than the occupier of a mere cabbage garden. In Limerick, Tipperary, Clare, Meath and Waterford, there are to be found the greateſt graziers and cow-keepers perhaps in the world, ſome who rent and occupy from 3000l. to 10,000l. a year: theſe of courſe are men of property, and are the only occupiers in the kingdom, who have any conſiderable ſubſtance. The effects are not ſo beneficial as might be expected. Rich graziers in England, who have a little tillage, uſually manage it well, and are in other reſpects attentive to various improvements, though it muſt be confeſſed not in the ſame proportion with great arable farmers; but in Ireland theſe men are as errant ſlovens as the moſt beggarly cottars. The rich lands of Limerick are in reſpect of fences, drains, buildings, weeds, &c. in as waſte a ſtate as the mountains of Kerry; the fertility of nature is ſo little ſeconded, that few tracts yield leſs pleaſure to the ſpectator. From what I obſerved, I attributed this to the idleneſs and diſſipation ſo general in Ireland. Theſe graziers are too apt to attend to their claret as much as their bullocks, live expenſively, and being enabled, from the nature of their buſineſs, to paſs nine-tenths of the year without any exertion of induſtry, contract ſuch a habit of eaſe, that works of improvement would be mortifying to their ſloth.

In the arable counties of Louth, part of Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, Carlow, Queen's, and part of King's, and Tipperary, they are much more induſtrious. It is the nature of tillage, to raiſe a more regular and animated attention to buſineſs; but the farms are too ſmall, and the tenants too poor, to exhibit any appearances that can ſtrike an Engliſh traveller. They have a great deal of corn, and many fine wheat crops; but being gained at the expence and loſs of a fallow, as in the open fields of England, they do not ſuggeſt the ideas of profit to the individual, or advantage to the ſtate, which worſe crops in a well appointed rotation would do. Their manuring is trivial, their tackle and implements wretched, their teams weak, their profit ſmall, and their living little better than that of the cottars they employ. Theſe circumſtances are the neceſſary reſult of the ſmallneſs of their capitals, which even in theſe tillage counties do not uſually amount to a third of what an Engliſh farmer would have to manage the ſame extent of land. The leaſes of theſe men are uſually three lives to proteſtants, and thirty-one years to catholics.

The tenantry in the more unimproved parts, ſuch as Corke, Wicklow, Longford, and all the mountainous counties, where it is part tillage, and part paſturage, are generally in a very backward ſtate. Their capitals are ſmaller than the claſs I juſt mentioned, and among them is chiefly found the practice of many poor cottars hiring large farms in partnerſhip. They make their rents by a little butter, a little wool, a little corn, and a few young cattle and lambs. Their lands at extreme low rents, are the moſt unimproved, (mountain and bog excepted,) in the kingdom. They have, however, more induſtry than capital; and with a very little management, might be brought greatly to improve their huſbandry. I think they hold more generally from intermediate tenants than any other ſet; one reaſon why the land they occupy is in ſo waſte a ſtate. In the mountainous tracts, I ſaw inſtances of greater induſtry than in any other part of Ireland. Little occupiers, who can get leaſes of a mountain ſide, make exertions in improvement, which, though far enough from being complete, or accurate, yet prove clearly what great effects encouragement would have among them.

In the King's county, and alſo in ſome other parts, I ſaw many tracts of land, not large enough to be relet, which were occupied under leaſes for ever, very well planted and improved by men of ſubſtance and induſtry.

The poverty, common among the ſmall occupying tenantry, may be pretty well aſcertained from their general conduct in hiring a farm. They will manage to take one with a ſum ſurprizingly ſmall; they provide labour, which in England is ſo conſiderable an article, by aſſigning portions of land to cottars for their potatoe gardens, and keeping one or two cows for each of them. To leſſen the live ſtock neceſſary, they will, whenever the neighbourhood enables them, take in the cattle at ſo much per month, or ſeaſon, of any perſon that is deficient in paſturage at home, or of any labourers that have no land. Next, they will let out ſome old lay for graſs potatoes to ſuch labourers; and if they are in a county where corn acres are known, they will do the ſame with ſome corn land. If there is any meadow on their farm, they will ſell a part of it as the hay grows. By all theſe means the neceſſity of a full ſtock is very much leſſened, and by means of living themſelves in the very pooreſt manner, and converting every pig, fowl, and even egg into caſh, they will make up their rent, and get by very ſlow degrees into ſomewhat better circumſtances. Where it is the cuſtom to take in partnerſhip, the difficulties are eaſier got over, for one man brings a few ſheep, another a cow, a third a horſe, a fourth a car and ſome ſeed potatoes, a fifth a few barrels of corn, and ſo on, until the farm among them is tolerably ſtocked, and hands upon it in plenty for the labour.

But it is from the whole evident, that they are uncommon maſters of the art of overcoming difficulties by patience and contrivance. Travellers, who take a ſuperficial view of them are apt to think their poverty and wretchedneſs, viewed in the light of farmers, greater than they are. Perhaps there is an impropriety in conſidering a man merely as the occupier of ſuch a quantity of land, and that inſtead of the land, his capital ſhould be the object of contemplation. Give the farmer of twenty acres in England no more capital than his brother in Ireland, and I will venture to ſay he will be much poorer, for he would be utterly unable to go on at all.

I ſhall conclude what I have to ſay upon this ſubject, with ſtating, in few words, what I think would prove a very advantageous conduct in landlords towards the poor tenantry of the kingdom, and I ſhall do this with the greater readineſs, as I ſpeak not only as a paſſing traveller, but from a year's reſidence among ſeveral hundred tenants, whoſe circumſtances and ſituation I had particular opportunities of obſerving.

Let me remark, that the power and influence of a reſident landlord is ſo great in Ireland, that whatever ſyſtem he adopts be it well or ill imagined, he is much more able to introduce and accompliſh it than Engliſhmen can well have an idea of; conſequently, one may ſuppoſe him to determine more authoritatively than a perſon in a ſimilar ſituation in this kingdom could do. The firſt object, is a ſettled determination never to be departed from, to let his farms only to the immediate occupier of the land, and to avoid deceit not to allow a cottar, herdſman, or ſteward, to have more than three or four acres on any of his farms. By no means to reject the little occupier of a few acres from being a tenant to himſelf, rather than annex his land to a larger ſpot. Having by this previous ſtep, eaſed theſe inferior tenantry of the burden of the intermediate man, let him give out, and ſteadily adhere to it, that he ſhall inſiſt on the regular and punctual payment of his rent, but ſhall take no perſonal ſervice whatever. The meaneſt occupier to have a leaſe, and none ſhorter than twenty-one years, which I am inclined alſo to believe is long enough for his advantage. There will ariſe, in ſpite of his tenderneſs, a neceſſity of ſecuring a regular payment of rent: I would adviſe him to diſtrain without favour or affection, at a certain period of deficiency. This will appear harſh only upon a ſuperficial conſideration. The object is to eſtabliſh the ſyſtem, but it will fall before it is on its legs, if founded on a landlord's forgiving arrears, or permitting them to encreaſe. He need not be apprehenſive, ſince they, who can under diſadvantages, pay the *jobber*, can certainly pay the *landlord* himſelf, when freed from thoſe incumbrances. At all events, let him perſiſt in this firmneſs, though it be the ruin of a few; for he muſt remember, that if he ruins five, he aſſuredly ſaves ten: he will, it is true, know the fall of a few, but many with an intermediate tenant might be deſtroyed without his knowing it. Such a ſteady regular conduct would infallibly have its effect, in animating all the tenantry of the eſtate to exert every nerve to be punctual; whereas favour ſhewn now and then would make every one, the leaſt inclined to remiſſneſs, hope for its exertion towards himſelf, and every partial good would be attended with a diffuſive evil; exceptions however to be made for very great and unavoidable misfortunes, clearly and undoubtedly proved. This ſtern adminiſtration on the one hand ſhould be accompanied on the other with every ſpecies of encouragement to thoſe, who ſhewed the leaſt diſpoſition to improve; premiums ſhould be given, rewards adjudged, difficulties ſmoothed, and notice taken, in the moſt flattering manner, of thoſe whoſe conduct merited it. I ſhall in another part of theſe papers point out, in detail, the advantageous ſyſtems; it is here only requiſite to obſerve, that whatever novelties a landlord wiſhes to introduce, he ſhould give ſeed gratis, and be at a part of the expence, promiſing to be at the whole loſs, if he is well ſatisfied it is really incurred. From various obſervations I am convinced, that ſuch a conduct would very rarely prove unſucceſsful. The profit to a landlord would be immenſe; he would in the courſe of a leaſe find his tenantry paying a high rent, with greater eaſe to themſelves, than they before yielded a low one.

A few conſiderable landlords, many years ago, made the experiment of fixing, at great expence, colonies of palatines on their eſtates. Some of them I viewed, and made many enquiries. The ſcheme did not appear to me to anſwer. They had houſes built for them; plots of land aſſigned to each at a rent of favour, aſſiſted in ſtock, and all of them with leaſes for lives from the head landlord. The poor Iriſh are very rarely treated in this manner; and when they are, they work much greater improvements than common among theſe Germans; witneſs Sir William Oſborne's mountaineers! a few beneficial practices were introduced, but never travelled beyond their own farms; they were viewed with eyes too envious to allow them to be patterns, and it was human nature that it ſhould be ſo: but encourage a few of your own poor, and if their practices thrive they will ſpread. I am convinced no country, whatever ſtate it may be in, can be improved by colonies of foreigners, and whatever foreigner, as a ſuperintendant of any great improvement, aſks for colonies of his own countrymen to execute his ideas, manifeſts a mean genius and but little knowledge of the human heart; if he has talents he will find tools wherever he finds men, and make the natives of the country the means of encreaſing their own happineſs. Whatever he does then, will live and take root; but if effected by foreign hands, it will prove a ſickly and ſhort lived exotic; brilliant perhaps, for a time, in the eyes of the ignorant, but of no ſolid advantage to the country that employs him.

SECTION VI.

Of the Labouring Poor.

SUCH is the weight of the lower claſſes in the great ſcale of national importance, that a traveller can never give too much attention to every circumſtance that concerns them; their welfare forms the broad baſis of public proſperity; it is they that feed, cloath, enrich, and fight the battles of all the other ranks of a community; it is their being able to ſupport theſe various burthens without oppreſſion, which conſtitutes the general felicity; in proportion to their eaſe is the ſtrength and wealth of nations, as public debility will be the certain attendant on their miſery. Convinced that to be ignorant of their ſtate and ſituation, in different countries, is to be deficient in the firſt rudiments of political knowledge. I have upon every occaſion, made the neceſſary enquiries, to get the beſt information circumſtances would allow me. What paſſes daily, and even hourly, before our eyes, we are very apt entirely to overlook; hence the ſurprizing inattention of various people to the food, cloathing, poſſeſſions and ſtate of the poor, even in their own neighbourhood; many a queſtion have I put to gentlemen upon theſe points, which were not anſwered without having recourſe to the next cabbin; a ſource of information the more neceſſary, as I found upon various occaſions, that ſome gentlemen in Ireland are infected with the rage of adopting *ſyſtems* as well as thoſe of England: with one party the poor are all ſtarving, with the other they are deemed in a very tolerable ſituation, and a third, who look with an evil eye on the adminiſtration of the Britiſh government, are fond of exclaiming at poverty and rags, as proofs of the cruel treatment of Ireland. When truth is likely to be thus warped, a traveller muſt be very circumſpect to *believe*, and very aſſiduous to *ſee*.

Places.	*Rent of cabbin and garden.*	*Cows graſs rent.*	*Cows per family.*
Dublin,	1 8 0		
Celbridge,	2 0 0		
Dolleſtown,	2 0 0		
Summerhill,			1 or 2
Slaine,	2 0 0	2 0 0	
Packenham,	1 10 0		
Tullamore,	2 0 0		
Shaen Caſtle,	1 5 0	1 5 0	
Ballynakill,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Kilfaine,	3 3 0		1
Bargy and Forth,	3 0 0		1
Mount Kennedy,	2 10 0		1
Kilrue,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Hampton,	2 10 0	1 10 0	2
Warrenſtown,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Lecale,	2 2 0		
Caſtle Caldwell,	1 0 0	1 10 0	2
Longford,	1 10 0	1 10 0	all
Strokeſtown,	1 0 0	1 2 0	
Mercra,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Moniva,	1 10 0		
Woodlawn,			3
Limerick,	1 0 0		
Mallow,	1 10 0	2 2 0	all
Dunkettle,	1 12 6		
Coolmore,	1 0 0		
Nedeen,	1 2 9	2 0 0	
Adair,	2 5 6		
Caſtle Oliver,	2 0 0	2 2 6	
Tipperary,	3 0 0	2 2 0	
Ballycanvan,	1 10 0	1 7 0	
Gloſter,	1 10 0	1 5 0	
Johnſtown,	1 0 0	1 0 0	
Derry,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Mitchell's Town,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Average,	1 13 10	1 11 3	

From the minutes of the journey it will be found, that there is no determinate quantity of land for the potatoe garden; it is uſually an acre; ſometimes half an acre, and ſometimes one acre and a half; but according to the ſoil, that quantity which is underſtood (right or wrong) to be neceſſary, is called the garden. The graſs for a cow is for the green food only, the cotter himſelf finds or buys hay. From the blanks in the number of cows it is not to be implied that they have none, but that the information was not received.

But it is neceſſary here to explain the common cottar ſyſtem of labour in Ireland, which much reſembles that of Scotland until very lately, and which was probably the ſame all over Europe before arts and commerce changed the face of it. If there are cabbins on a farm they are the reſidence of the cottars, if there are none the farmer marks out the potatoe gardens, and the labourers, who apply to him on his hiring the land, raiſe their own cabbins on ſuch ſpots; in ſome places the farmer builds; in others he only aſſiſts them with the roof, &c. a verbal compact is then made, that the new cotter ſhall have his potatoe garden at ſuch a rent, and one or two cows kept him at the price of the neighbourhood, he finding the cows. He then works with the farmer at the rate of the place, uſually ſixpence halfpenny a day, a tally being kept (half by each party) and a notch cut for every day's labour: at the end of ſix months, or a year, they reckon, and the balance is paid. The cotter works for himſelf as his potatoes require.

The rates of	£1	13	10
And,	1	11	3
Forming together	3	5	1

for milk and potatoes appear to be very reaſonable; if two cows are kept, it is only 4l. 16s. 4d. from whence it is evident, as far merely as this charge goes, there is no oppreſſion upon them which can ever amount to ſtarving. In particular inſtances, where there is much inhumanity in the greater tenants, they are made to pay too high a rent for their gardens; and though the price, at which their cows are ſupported, may not appear high, yet they may ſo poorly kept as to make it very unreaſonable. I believe, from what I ſaw, that ſuch inſtances are not uncommon.

Places.	POTATOES.					
	Expence per acre.	*Product Barrels.*	*Price per Barrel.*	*Produce value.*	*Prime coſt.*	*Rent potatoe ground.*
Dublin,		65				
Celbridge,		100	5 0			8 0 0
Dolleſtown,	15 15 0	60		15 15 0	5 0	5 12 6
Summerhill,		80				6 3 0
Slain Caſtle,	12 4 0	64	3 6	11 4 0	4 0	4 10 0
Headfort,		85				4 10 0
Packenham,	10 10 0	80			2 6	5 0 0
Mullingar to Tulleſpace,		60				
Tullimore,						6 0 0
General Walſh,		176				
Near Athy,	8 14 2	80	3 4	13 7 0	2 2	
Ballynakill,	10 16 0	60	4 6		3 6	
Kilfaine,	5 4 0	40				
Proſpect,		80	5 0			
Ardmagh,		45				
Warrenſtown,		40				
Shaen Caſtle,		87				
Leſly Hill,	7 7 0	80	4 0	16 0 0	1 10	
North of ditto,	8 5 6	75	4 0	15 0 0	2 0½	
Newton Limavaddy,				10 0 0		
Florence court,	7 7 5			12 16 0		
Farnham,	13 0 4	60	7 6	22 10 0	4 4	
Longford,		120	8 0			
Strokeſtown,		50	8 0	20 0 0		5 5 0
Mercra,	7 4 4			7 10 0		5 0 0
Weſtport,	5 13 0			12 0 0		
Holymount,						3 15 0
Moniva,		50	4 0	10 0 0		
Woodlawn,		60	4 0	12 0 0		
Drumoland,		100				
Annſgrove,						1 17 6
Mallow,		42				
Dunkettle,		50				4 15 0
Caſtle Martyr,	6 4 0	70	3 0	10 10 0	1 9	
Coolmore,		50				
Adair,		60	8 0	24 0 0		6 16 6
Caſtle Oliver,	15 3 2	150	4 0	30 0 0	2 0	4 10 0
Tipperary,		90	5 0			6 0 0
Ballycahvan,		60				
Furneſs,	14 0 0	100	5 0	15 0 0	2 9	
Gloſter,	11 5 2	100	3 4	16 13 4	2 3	6 8 0
Johnſtown,	11 0 6	90	4 0	18 0 0	2 5	7 0 0
Derry,		35				4 5 0
Cullen,	10 11 8	120	3 0	18 0 0	1 2½	6 0 0
Michelſtown,	6 0 7	60	4 4	13 0 0	2 0	

Cunningham Acre reduced.

	POTATOES.					
Places.	*Expence per acre.*	*Product Barrels.*	*Price per Barrel.*	*Produce value.*	*Prime coſt.*	*Rent potatoe ground.*
Ardmagh,		58				
Warrenſtown,		51				
Shaen Caſtle,		112				
Leſly Hill,	9 9 0	103	4 0	20 11 0	1 10	
Ditto,	10 12 0	96	4 0	19 5 0	2 0½	
Engliſh Acre Reduced.						
Mallow,		67				
Dunkettle,		80				7 12 0
Caſtle Martyr,	9 18 0	112	3 0	16 16 0	1 9	
Coolmore,		80				
Averages,	10 4 9	82	4 .9	16 12 6	2 7½	5 10 2
Averages per Engliſh acre.	6 7 6	52	4 9	10 7 0	2 7½	3 8 6

Theſe tables together will enable the reader to have a pretty accurate idea of the expences at which the poor in Ireland are fed. The firſt column is the total expence of an acre of potatoes, the third is the price at which potatoes are bought and ſold, for feed, or food. The prime coſt is the price formed by the firſt and ſecond columns, being the rate at which they are eaten by thoſe who raiſe them. The laſt column requires rather more explanation to thoſe who were never in that country. There are a great many cabbins, uſually by the road ſide, or in the ditch, which have no potatoe gardens at all. Ireland being free from the curſe of Engliſh poor laws, the people move about the country and ſettle where they will. A wandering family will fix themſelves under a dry bank, and with a few ſticks, furze, fern, &c. make up a hovel much worſe than an Engliſh pigſtie, ſupport themſelves how they can, by work, begging and ſtealing; if the neighbourhood wants hands, or takes no notice of them, the hovel grows into a cabbin. In my rides about Mitchelſtown, I have paſſed places in the road one day, without any appearance of a habitation, and next morning found a hovel, filled with a man and woman, ſix or eight children, and a pig. Theſe people are not kept by any body as cottars, but are taken at buſy ſeaſons by the day or week, and paid in money, conſequently having no potatoe garden, they are neceſſitated every year, to hire a ſpot of ſome neighbouring farmer, and of the preceding table, the laſt column, is the rent per acre paid for it. The cabbins in little towns are in the ſame ſituation.

I think 5l. 10s. 2d. for liberty to plant a crop ſo beneficial to the land as potatoes, a very extravagant rent, and by no means upon a fair level with the other circumſtances of the poor. The prime coſt of two ſhillings and ſeven pence halfpenny per barrel, generally of twenty ſtone, being equal to about eight-pence the buſhel of ſeventy pounds, is not a high price for the root, yet might it be much lower, if they gave up their lazy bad method of culture, and adopted that of the plough, for the average produce of three hundred twenty eight buſhels, or eighty-two barrels per acre, compared with crops in England, is perfectly inſignificant, yet to gain this miſerable produce, much old lay, and nineteen-twentieths of all the dung in the kingdom is employed. A total alteration in this point is therefore much to be wiſhed.

Relative to the cottar ſyſtem wherever it is found, it may be obſerved that the recompence for labour is *the means of living*. In England theſe are diſpenſed in money, but in Ireland in land or commodities. In the former country paying the poor with any thing but money has been found ſo oppreſſive, that various and repeated ſtatutes have been made to prohibit it. Is it to be conſidered in the ſame light in Ireland? this is a queſtion which involves many conſiderations. Firſt let me remark that the two modes of payment prohibited in England, but common in Ireland, are not exactly the ſame, though upon ſimilar principles. In England it is the payment of manufacturing labourers in neceſſaries, as bread, candles, ſoap, &c. In Ireland it is a quantity of land for the ſupport of a labourer a year. The former, it muſt ſtrike every one, is more open to abuſe, involving more complex accounts than the latter. The great queſtion is, which ſyſtem is moſt advantageous to the poor family, the payment to be in land for potatoes and milk, or in money, ſuppoſing the payment to be fairly made: here lies the diſcuſſion.

On one hand the Iriſh labourer in every circumſtance which gives him any appearance of plenty, the poſſeſſion of cattle is ſubjected to chances which muſt be heavy in proportion to his poverty; ill fed cattle, we know from the experience of Engliſh commons are very far from being ſo advantageous to a man as they firſt ſeem; accidents happen without a reſource to ſupply the loſs, and leave the man much worſe than him who being paid in money is independant of ſuch events. But to reverſe the medal, there appear advantages, and very great ones by being paid in land, he has plenty of articles of the utmoſt importance to the ſuſtenance of a family, potatoes and milk. Generally ſpeaking the Iriſh poor have a fair belly full of potatoes, and they have milk the greateſt part of the year. What I would particularly inſiſt on here is the value of his labour being food not money; food not for himſelf only, but for his wife and children. An Iriſhman loves whiſkey as well as an Engliſhman does ſtrong beer; but he cannot go on Saturday night to the whiſkey houſe, and drink out the week's ſupport of himſelf, his wife and his children, not uncommon in the ale-houſe of the Engliſhman. It may indeed be ſaid that we ſhould not argue againſt a mode of payment becauſe it may be abuſed, which is very true, but we certainly may reaſon againſt that which carries in its very principles the ſeed of abuſe. That the Iriſhman's cow may be ill fed is admitted, but ill fed as it is, it is better than the no cow of the Engliſhman; the children of the Iriſh cabbin are nouriſhed with milk, which, ſmall as the quantity may be, is far preferable to the beer or vile tea which is the beverage of the Engliſh infant, for no where but in a town is milk to be bought. Farther, in a country where bread, cheeſe or meat are the common food, it is conſumed with great œconomy, and kept under lock and key where the children can have no reſort; but the caſe with potatoes is different, they are in greater plenty, the children help themſelves; they are ſcarce ever ſeen about a cabbin without being in the act of eating them, it is their employment all day long. Another circumſtance not to be forgotten, is the regularity of the ſupply. The crop of potatoes, and the milk of the cow is more regular in Ireland than the *price* at which the Engliſhman buys his food. In England complaints riſe even to riots when the rates of proviſions are high; but in Ireland the poor have nothing to do with prices, they depend not on prices, but crops of a vegetable very regular in its produce. Attend the Engliſh labourer when he is in ſickneſs, he muſt then have reſort to his ſavings, but thoſe will be nought among nine-tenths of the poor of a country that have a legal dependance on the pariſh, which therefore is the beſt off, the Engliſhman ſupported by the pariſh, or the Iriſhman by his potatoe-bed and cow?

Money I am ready enough to grant has many advantages, but they depend almoſt entirely on the prudence with which it is expended. They know little of the human mind who ſuppoſe that the poor man with his ſeven or eight ſhillings on a Saturday night has not his temptations to be imprudent as well as his ſuperior with as many hundreds or thouſands a year. He has his alehouſe, his brandy ſhop, and ſkittle ground, as much as the other his ball, opera or maſquerade. Examine the ſtate of the Engliſh poor, and ſee if facts do not co-incide here with theory; do we not ſee numbers of half ſtarved, and half cloathed families owing to the ſuperfluities of ale and brandy, tea and ſugar. An Iriſhman cannot do this in any degree, he can neither drink whiſkey from his potatoes, nor milk it from his cow.

But after all that can be ſaid on this ſubject, the cuſtom of both countries is conſiſtent with their reſpective circumſtances and ſituations. When great wealth from immenſe branches of induſtry has brought on a rapid circulation, and much of what is commonly called luxury, the more ſimple mode of paying labour with land can ſcarcely hold. It does not, however, follow that the poor are in that reſpect better off, other advantages of a different kind attend the evils of ſuch a ſituation, among which, perhaps, the employment of the wife and all the children, are the greateſt. In ſuch a country, alſo markets and ſhops will be eſtabliſhed in every corner, where the poor may buy their neceſſaries without difficulty; but in Ireland there are neither one nor the other; the labourer there with his pay in his pocket would find nothing readily but whiſky.

I have gone into this enquiry in order to ſatisfy the people of Ireland, that the mode there common of paying the labouring poor is conſiſtent with the ſituation of the kingdom: whether it is good or bad, or better or worſe than that of England, it is what will neceſſarily continue until a great encreaſe of national wealth has introduced a more general circulation of money, they will then have the Engliſh mode with its defects as well as its advantages.

FOOD.

The food of the common Iriſh, potatoes and milk, have been produced more than once as an inſtance of the extreme poverty of the country, but this I believe is an opinion embraced with more alacrity than reflection. I have heard it ſtigmatized as being unhealthy, and not ſufficiently nouriſhing for the ſupport of hard labour, but this opinion is very amazing in a country, many of whoſe poor people are as athletic in their form, as robuſt, and as capable of enduring labour as any upon earth. The idleneſs ſeen among many when working for thoſe who oppreſs them is a very contraſt to the vigour and activity with which the ſame people work when themſelves alone reap the benefit of their labour. To what country muſt we have recourſe for a ſtronger inſtance than lime carried by little miſerable mountaineers thirty miles on horſes backs to the foot of their hills, and up the ſteeps on their own. When I ſee the people of a country in ſpite of political oppreſſion with well formed vigorous bodies, and their cottages ſwarming with children; when I ſee their men athletic, and their women beautiful, I know not how to believe them ſubſiſting on an unwholeſome food.

At the ſame time, however, that both reaſon and obſervation convince me of the juſtice of theſe remarks, I will candidly allow that I have ſeen ſuch an exceſs in the lazineſs of great numbers, even when working for themſelves, and ſuch an apparent weakneſs in their exertions when encouraged to work, that I have had my doubts of the heartineſs of their food. But here ariſe freſh difficulties, were their food ever ſo nouriſhing I can eaſily conceive an habitual inactivity of exertion would give them an air of debility compared with a more induſtrious people. Though my reſidence in Ireland was not long enough to become a perfect maſter of the queſtion, yet I have employed from twenty to fifty men for ſeveral months, and found their habitual lazineſs or weakneſs ſo great, whether working by meaſure or by day, that I am abſolutely convinced 1s. 6d. and even 2s. a day in Suffolk or Hertfordſhire much cheaper than ſixpence halfpenny at Mitchelſtown: It would not be fair to conſider this as a repreſentation of the kingdom, that place being remarkably backward in every ſpecies of induſtry and improvement; but I am afraid this obſervation would hold true in a leſs degree for the whole. But is this owing to habit or food? Granting their food to be the cauſe, it decides very little againſt potatoes, unleſs they were tried with good nouriſhing beer inſtead of their vile potations of whiſky. When they are encouraged, or animate themſelves to work hard, it is all by whiſky, which though it has a notable effect in giving a perpetual motion to their tongues, can have but little of that invigorating ſubſtance which is found in ſtrong beer or porter, probably it has an effect as pernicious, as the other is beneficial. One circumſtance I ſhould mention, which ſeems to confirm this: I have known the Iriſh reapers in Hertfordſhire work as laboriouſly as any of our own men, and living upon potatoes which they procured from London, but drinking nothing but ale. If their bodies are weak I attribute it to whiſky, not potatoes; but it is ſtill a queſtion with me whether their miſerable working ariſes from any ſuch weakneſs, or from an habitual lazineſs. A friend of mine always refuſed Iriſhmen work in Surrey, ſaying his bailiff could do nothing but ſettle their quarrels.

But of this food there is one circumſtance which muſt ever recommend it, they have a belly full, and that let me add is more than the ſuperfluities of an Engliſhman leaves to his family: let any perſon examine minutely into the receipt and expenditure of an Engliſh cottage, and he will find that tea, ſugar and ſtrong liquors, can come only from pinched bellies. I will not aſſert that potatoes are a better food than bread and cheeſe; but I have no doubt of a bellyfull of the one being much better than half a bellyfull of the other; ſtill leſs have I that the milk of the Iriſhman is incomparably better than the ſmall beer, gin, or tea of the Engliſhman; and this even for the father, how much better muſt it be for the poor infants; milk to them is nouriſhment, is health, is life.

If any one doubts the comparative plenty, which attends the board of a poor native of England and Ireland, let him attend to their meals: the ſparingneſs with which our labourer eats his bread and cheeſe is well known; mark the Iriſhman's potatoe bowl placed on the floor, the whole family upon their hams around it, devouring a quantity almoſt incredible, the beggar ſeating himſelf to it with a hearty welcome, the pig taking his ſhare as readily as the wife, the cocks, hens, turkies,

kies, geeſe, the cur, the cat, and perhaps the cow—and all partaking of the ſame diſh. No man can often have been a witneſs of it without being convinced of the plenty, and I will add the chearfulneſs, that attends it.

Is it, or is it not a matter of conſequence, for the great body of the people of a country, to ſubſiſt upon that ſpecies of food which is produced in the greateſt quantity by the ſmalleſt ſpace of land? One need only to ſtate, in order to anſwer the queſtion. It certainly is an object of the higheſt conſequence, what in this reſpect is the compariſon between wheat or cheeſe, or meat and potatoes?

The minutes of the journey will enable us to ſhew this.

No. 1. At Shaen caſtle, Queen's county, a barrel of potatoes laſts a family of ſix perſons a week.

No. 2. At Shaen caſtle, Antrim, ſix people eat three buſhels, and twenty pounds of oatmeal beſides, in a week, twenty pounds of meal are equal to one buſhel of potatoes; this therefore is a barrel alſo.

No. 3. Leſlie hill, a barrel of four buſhels ſix perſons a week.

No. 4. Near Giant's cauſeway, a barrel ſix people eight days.

No. 5. Caſtle Caldwell, a barrel of eighteen ſtone ſix people a week.

No. 6. Gloſter, a barrel five perſons a week.

No. 7. Derry, five perſons eat and waſte two barrels a week.

No. 8. Cullen, two barrels ſix perſons a week.

	Barrels.	*Perſons.*	*Days.*
No. 1	1	6	7
2	1	6	7
3	1	6	7
4	1	6	8
5	1	6	7
6	1	5	7
7	2	5	7
8	2	6	7

A barrel is twenty ſtones, or two hundred and eighty pounds, which is the weight of four Engliſh buſhels; the average of theſe accounts is nearly that quantity laſting a family of ſix people ſix days, which makes a year's food ſixty barrels. Now the average produce of the whole kingdom being eighty-two barrels per acre, plantation meaſure, one acre does rather more than ſupport eight perſons the year through, which is five perſons to the Engliſh acre. To feed on wheat, thoſe eight perſons would require eight quarters, or two Iriſh acres, which at preſent, imply two more for fallow, or four in all.

When, however, I ſpeak of potatoes and buttermilk being the food of the poor, the tables already inſerted ſhew, that in ſome parts of the north that root forms their diet but for a part of the year, much oatmeal and ſome meat being conſumed. I need not dwell on this, as there is nothing particular to attend to in it, whereas potatoes, as the ſtaple dependance, is a peculiarity met with in no country but the other parts of Ireland.

CLOATHING.

The common Iriſh are in general cloathed ſo very indifferently, that it impreſſes every ſtranger with a ſtrong idea of univerſal poverty. Shoes and ſtockings are ſcarcely ever found on the feet of children of either ſex; and great numbers of men and women are without them: a change however, in this reſpect as in moſt others, is coming in, for there are many more of them with thoſe articles of cloathing now than ten years ago.

An Iriſhman and his wife are much more ſolicitous to feed than to cloath their children: whereas in England it is ſurprizing to ſee the expence they put themſelves to, to deck out children whoſe principal ſubſiſtence is tea. Very many of them in Ireland are ſo ragged that their nakedneſs is ſcarcely covered; yet are they in health and active. As to the want of ſhoes and ſtockings I conſider it as no evil, but a much more cleanly cuſtom than the beaſtiality of ſtockings and feet that are waſhed no oftener than thoſe of our own poor. Women are oftener without ſhoes than men; and by waſhing their cloaths no where but in rivers and ſtreams, the cold, eſpecially as they roaſt their legs in their cabbins till they are *fire* ſpotted, muſt ſwell them to a wonderful ſize and horrid black and blue colour always met with both in young and old. They ſtand in rivers and beat the linen againſt the great ſtones found there with a beetle.

I remarked generally, that they were not ill dreſſed of ſundays and holidays, and that black or dark blue was almoſt the univerſal hue.

HABITATIONS.

The cottages of the Iriſh, which are all called cabbins, are the moſt miſerable looking hovels that can well be conceived: they generally conſiſt of only one room: mud kneaded with ſtraw is the common material of the walls; theſe are rarely above ſeven feet high, and not always above five or ſix; they are about two feet thick, and have only a door, which lets in light inſtead of a window, and ſhould let the ſmoak out inſtead of a chimney, but they had rather keep it in: theſe two conveniencies they hold ſo cheap, that I have ſeen them both ſtopped up in ſtone cottages, built by improving landlords; the ſmoak warms them, but certainly is as injurious to their eyes as it is to the complexions of the women, which in general in the cabbins of Ireland has a near reſemblance to that of a ſmoaked ham. The number of the blind poor I think greater there than in England, which is probably owing to this cauſe.

The roofs of the cabbins are rafters, raiſed from the tops of the mud walls, and the covering varies; ſome are thatched with ſtraw, potatoe ſtalks, or with heath, others only covered with ſods of turf cut from a graſs field; and I have ſeen ſeveral that were partly compoſed of all three; the bad repair theſe roofs are kept in, a hole in the thatch being often mended with turf, and weeds ſprouting from every part, gives them the appearance of a weedy dunghill, eſpecially when the cabbin is not built with regular walls, but ſupported on one, or perhaps on both ſides by the banks of a broad dry ditch, the roof then ſeems a hillock, upon which perhaps the pig grazes. Some of theſe cabbins are much leſs and more miſerable habitations than I had ever ſeen in England. I was told they were the worſt in Connaught, but I found it an error; I ſaw many in Leinſter to the full as bad, and in Wicklow, ſome worſe than any in Connaught. When they are well roofed, and built not of ſtones, ill put together, but of mud, they are much warmer, independently of ſmoke, than the clay, or lath and mortar cottages of England, the walls of which are ſo thin, that a rat hole lets in the wind to the annoyance of the whole family. The furniture of the cabbins is as bad as the architecture; in very many, conſiſting only of a pot for boiling their potatoes, a bit of a table, and one or two broken ſtools; beds are not found univerſally, the family lying on ſtraw, equally partook of by cows, calves and pigs, though the luxury of ſties is coming in in Ireland, which excludes the poor pigs from the warmth of the bodies of their maſter and miſtreſs: I remarked little hovels of earth thrown up near the cabbins, and in ſome places they build their turf ſtacks hollow, in order to afford ſhelter to the hogs. This is a general deſcription, but the exceptions are very numerous. I have been in a multitude of cabbins that had much uſeful furniture, and ſome even ſuperfluous; chairs, tables, boxes, cheſt of drawers, earthen ware, and in ſhort moſt of the articles found in a middling Engliſh cottage; but upon enquiry, I very generally found that theſe acquiſitions were all made within the laſt ten years, a ſure ſign of a riſing national proſperity. I think the bad cabbins and furniture the greateſt inſtances of Iriſh poverty, and this muſt flow from the mode of payment for labour, which makes cattle ſo valuable to the peaſant, that every farthing they can ſpare is ſaved for their purchaſe: from hence alſo reſults another obſervation, which is, that the apparent poverty of it is greater than the real; for the houſe of a man that is maſter of four or five cows, will have ſcarce any thing but deficiencies; nay, I was in the cabbins of dairymen and farmers, not ſmall ones, whoſe cabbins were not at all better, or better furniſhed than thoſe of the pooreſt labourer: before, therefore, we can attribute it to abſolute poverty, we muſt take into the account the cuſtoms and inclinations of the people. In England a man's cottage will be filled with ſuperfluities before he poſſeſſes a cow. I think the compariſon much in favour of the Iriſhman; a hog is a much more valuable piece of goods than a ſet of tea things; and though his ſnout in a *crock** of potatoes is an idea not ſo poetical as

> ——— *Broken tea cups, wiſely kept for ſhew,*
> *Rang'd o'er the chimney, gliſten'd in a row.*

Yet will the cotter and his family, at Chriſtmas, find the ſolidity of it an ample recompence for the ornament of the other.

LIVE STOCK.

In every part of the kingdom the common Iriſh have all ſorts of live ſtock: the tables already inſerted ſhew this in reſpect of cows. I ſhould add here that pigs are yet more general, and poultry in many parts of the kingdom, eſpecially Leinſter, are in ſuch quantities as amazed me, not only cocks and hens, but alſo geeſe and turkies; this is owing probably to three circumſtances; firſt, to the plenty of potatoes with which they are fed; ſecondly, to the warmth of the cabbins; and thirdly, to the great quantity of ſpontaneous white clover (*trifolium repens*) in almoſt all the fields, which much exceeds any thing we know in England; upon the ſeeds of this plant the young poultry rear themſelves; much is ſold, but a conſiderable portion eaten by the family, probably becauſe they cannot find a market for the whole. Many of the cocks, hens, turkies and geeſe, have their legs tied together to prevent them from treſpaſſing on the farmers grounds. Indeed all the live ſtock of the poor man in Ireland is in this ſort of thraldom; the horſes are all hopping about, the pigs have a rope of ſtraw from around their necks to their hind legs. In the county of down they have an ingenious contrivance for a ſheep juſt to feed down the graſs of a ditch, a rope with a ſtake at each end, and the ſheep tied to a ring, through which it paſſes, ſo that the animal can move from one end of the rope, to the other, and eat whatever grows within two or three feet of it.

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* *The iron pot of an Iriſh cabbin.*

	PRICE OF LABOUR.					
Places.	*Hay and harveſt.*		*Winter.*		*Year round.*	*Riſe in Labour.*
	s.	d.	s.	d.	d.	
Dublin,					10	Twopence in 30 years.
Celbridge,					8	
Kilcock,	1	8	0	8		
Slaine,	1	2			7½	Threepence in 10 years.
Headfort,	0	9		7		
Packenham,		10		6	7½	None.
Tullamore,		8		4	5	None.
Shaen Caſtle,		10		6	7	Very little.
Carlow,	1	1		7½		One-fifth in 20 years.
Kilfain,		10½		6	7	One-fourth in 20 years.
Taghmon,	1	3	1	0		
Forth,	1	0	0	9	6	A little in 20 years.
Proſpect,		10		5		Twopence in 20 years.
Mount Kennedy,		10		8		One-third in 20 years.
Balbriggin,					8½	One-half in 20 years.
Market-hill,		‡8		8	8	Near double in 20 years.
Ardmagh,						One fourth in 20 years.
Warrenſtown,		11		8	8	A little.
Portaferry,		10		8	7	
Shaen Caſtle,		9		8	8½	One-third in 20 years.
Leſly Hill,	1	2			9	Near double in 20 years.
Limmavady,	1	0		8	9	
Inniſhoen,		7		6	6½	None.
Clonleigh,		‡10			6	One-third in 20 years.
Mount Charles,		7		6		One penny in 20 years.
Caſtle Caldwell,		7		7	7	
Caſtle Cool,	‡	0		7	7	
Belle Iſle,	‡	0		‡0	‡6	
Florence Court,		8		6	8	Twopence a day in 20 [years.
Farnham,	1	0		6	6	
Strokeſtown,	‡	6		6	6	None.
Ballyna,		6		4	5	One-ſixth in 20 years.
Mercra,		8		6	6	
Sortland,		8			5½	
Killala,		6		4½	5½	
Weſtport,		6		4	5	One-third in 20 years.
Moniva,		6		5		One-ſixth in 20 years.

‡ *And board.*

Drumoland,

Places.	*Hay and harveſt.*	*Winter.*	*Year round.*	*Riſe in Labour.*
	d.	d.	d.	
Drumoland,	6	6	6	None.
Doneraile,	‡ 8	6½	6½	One-third in 20 years.
Caſtle Martyr,	8	6	6	One-third in ditto.
Nedeen,	6	6	6	One-third in ditto.
Tarbat,	6	6	6	One-penny in ditto.
Adair,	6	5		One-third in ditto.
Caſtle Oliver,	6	5	6	One-penny a day in ditto.
Tipperary,	6	5	6	
Curraghmore,	6	5		
Waterford,	6½	6½	6½	
Furneſs,	8	7		One penny a day.
Gloſter,			6	One third in 20 years.
Johnſtown,	8	6½	5	Conſiderable.
Derry,	6½	5		None.
Caſtle Loyd,			5½	One penny a day.
Mitchel's Town,	6½	6½	6½	1½d. a day in 5 years.
Average,	8¾	6½	6½	1¾ in 20 years.

The riſe is very near a fourth in twenty years; and it is remarkable that in my Eaſtern Tour through England (vol. 4. p. 338.) I found the riſe of labour one fourth in eighteen years; from which it appears, that the two kingdoms, in this reſpect, have been nearly on a par.

Places.	*Carpenter.*		*Maſon.*		*Thatcher.*	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Dublin,	2	3	2	0		
Lutrel's Town,	2	3	2	0		
Slaine,	2	0	2	0	1	6
Packenham,	1	8	1	10		
Shaens Caſtle,	2	0	2	0		
Kilfain,	1	3	1	3		
Forth,	2	0	2	0	2	0
Proſpect,	2	0	2	0	1	0
Mount Kennedy,	2	3	2	0		
Market Hill,	2	2	1	10		
Ardmagh,	2	2	2	0		
Shaen Caſtle,	1	9	2	0	3	6
Limavady,	2	0	2	0	2	0
Clonleigh,	2	0	2	0	5	1
Mount Charles,	2	2	2	2	1	6
Caſtle Caldwell,	2	0	1	10	1	6
Florence Court,	1	9	1	9	1	1
Farnham,	2	2	2	2	1	6
Strokeſtown,	2	0	2	0	1	0
Ballynogh,	1	4	1	10	1	0
Mercra,	1	6	1	7	1	7½
Sortland,			1	6		
Kilalla,	1	6	1	6	1	4
Weſtport,	1	6	1	7	0	10
Moniva,	1	7	1	7	1	4
Drumoland,	1	6	1	6	1	0
Donneraile,	1	6	1	6	1	0
Corke,	1	6	1	6	1	6
Nedeen,	1	4	1	4	1	0
Tarbat,	1	6	1	6	1	0
Caſtle Oliver,	1	6	1	6	1	0
Tipperary,	1	6	1	6	1	6
Curraghmore,	1	9	1	9	0	10
Waterford,	2	0	2	0	0	6
Furneſs,	2	0	2	0	1	6
Gloſter,	1	6	1	8		
Johnſtown,	1	7½	1	7½		
Derry,	1	6	1	6		
Caſtle Loyd,	1	8	1	8	1	0
Mitchel's Town,	1	6	1	6	1	0
Average,	1	9	1	9	1	3

When it is conſidered that common labour in Ireland is but little more than a third of what it is in England, it may appear extraordinary that artizans are paid nearly, if not full, as high as in that kingdom.

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‡ *And beard.*

OPPRES-

OPPRESSION.

Before I conclude this article of the common labouring poor in Ireland, I muſt obſerve, that their happineſs depends not merely upon the payment of their labour, their cloaths, or their food; the ſubordination of the lower claſſes, degenerating into oppreſſion, is not to be overlooked. The poor in all countries, and under all governments, are both paid and fed, yet is there an infinite difference between them in different ones. This enquiry will by no means turn out ſo favourable as the preceding articles. It muſt be very apparent to every traveller, through that country, that the labouring poor are treated with harſhneſs, and are in all reſpects ſo little conſidered, that their want of importance ſeems a perfect contraſt to their ſituation in England, of which country, comparatively ſpeaking, they reign the ſovereigns. The age has improved ſo much in humanity, that even the poor Iriſh have experienced its influence, and are every day treated better and better; but ſtill the remnant of the old manners, the abominable diſtinction of religion, united with the oppreſſive conduct of the little country gentlemen, or rather vermin of the kingdom, who never were out of it, altogether bear ſtill very heavy on the poor people, and ſubject them to ſituations more mortifying than we ever behold in England. The landlord of an Iriſh eſtate, inhabited by Roman catholics, is a ſort of deſpot who yields obedience in whatever concerns the poor, to no law but that of his will. To diſcover what the liberty of a people is, we muſt live among them, and not look for it in the ſtatutes of the realm: the language of written law may be that of liberty, but the ſituation of the poor may ſpeak no language but that of ſlavery; there is too much of this contradiction in Ireland; a long ſeries of oppreſſions, aided by many very ill judged laws, have brought landlords into a habit of exerting a very lofty ſuperiority, and their vaſſals into that of an almoſt unlimited ſubmiſſion: ſpeaking a language that is deſpiſed, profeſſing a religion that is abhorred, and being diſarmed, the poor find themſelves in many caſes ſlaves even in the boſom of *written* liberty. Landlords that have reſided much abroad, are uſually humane in their ideas, but the habit of tyranny naturally contracts the mind, ſo that even in this poliſhed age, there are inſtances of a ſevere carriage towards the poor, which is quite unknown in England.

A landlord in Ireland can ſcarcely invent an order which a ſervant, labourer, or cottar dares to refuſe to execute. Nothing ſatisfies him but an unlimited ſubmiſſion. Diſreſpect or any thing tending towards ſaucineſs he may puniſh with his cane or his horſewhip with the moſt perfect ſecurity, a poor man would have his bones broke if he offered to lift his hand in his own defence. Knocking down is ſpoken of in the country in a manner that makes an Engliſh man ſtare. Landlords of conſequence have aſſured me that many of their cottars would think themſelves honoured by having their wives and daughters ſent for to the bed of their maſter; a mark of ſlavery that proves the oppreſſion under which ſuch people muſt live. Nay, I have heard anecdotes of the lives of people being made free with without any apprehenſion of the juſtice of a jury. But let it not be imagined that this is common; formerly it happened every day, but law gains ground. It muſt ſtrike the moſt careleſs traveller to ſee whole ſtrings of cars whipt into a ditch by a gentleman's footman to make way for his carriage; if they are overturned or broken in pieces, no matter, it is taken in patience, were they to complain they would perhaps be horſewhipped. The execution of the laws lies very much in the hands of juſtices of the peace, many of whom are drawn from the moſt illiberal claſs in the kingdom. If a poor man lodges a complaint againſt a gentleman, or any animal that chuſes to call itſelf a gentleman, and the juſtice iſſues out a ſummons for his appearance, it is a fixed affront, and he will infallibly be *called out.* Where MANNERS are in conſpiracy againſt LAW, to whom are the oppreſſed people to have recourſe? It is a fact that a poor man having a conteſt with a gentleman muſt—but I am talking nonſenſe, they know their ſituation too well to think of it; they can have no defence but by means of protection from one gentleman againſt another, who probably protects his vaſſal as he would the ſheep he intends to eat.

The colours of this picture are not charged. To aſſert that all theſe caſes are common, would be an exaggeration, but to ſay that an unfeeling landlord will do all this with impunity is to keep ſtrictly to truth: and what is liberty but a farce, and a jeſt if its bleſſings are received as the favour of kindneſs and humanity, inſtead of being the inheritance of RIGHT?

Conſequences have flowed from theſe oppreſſions which ought long ago to have put a ſtop to them. In England we have heard much of whiteboys, ſteelboys, oakboys, peep-of-day-boys, &c. But theſe various inſurgents are not to be confounded, for they are very different. The proper diſtinction in the diſcontents of the people is into proteſtant and catholic. All but the whiteboys were among the manufacturing proteſtants in the north. The whiteboys catholic labourers in the ſouth: from the beſt intelligence I could gain, the riots of the manufacturers had no other foundation, but ſuch variations in the manufacture as all fabrics experience, and which they had themſelves known and ſubmitted to before. The caſe, however, was different with the whiteboys; who being labouring catholics met with all thoſe oppreſſions I have deſcribed, and would probably have continued in full ſubmiſſion had not very ſevere treatment in reſpect of tythes united with a great ſpeculative riſe of rents about the ſame time, blown up the flame of reſiſtance; the atrocious acts they were guilty of made them the object of general indignation, acts were paſſed for their puniſhment, which ſeemed calculated for the meridian of Barbary; this aroſe to ſuch a height, that by one they were to be hanged under certain circumſtances without the common formalities of a trial, which though repealed the following ſeſſions marks the ſpirit of puniſhment; while others remain yet the law of the land, that would if executed tend more to raiſe than quell an inſurrection. From all which it is manifeſt that the gentlemen of Ireland never thought of a radical cure from overlooking the real cauſe of the diſeaſe, which in fact lay in themſelves, and not in the wretches they doomed to the gallows. Let them change their own conduct intirely, and the poor will not long riot. Treat them like men who ought to be as free as yourſelves: put an end to that ſyſtem of religious perſecution which for ſeventy years has divided the kingdom againſt itſelf; in theſe two circumſtances lies the cure of inſurrection, perform them completely, and you will have an affectionate poor, inſtead of oppreſſed and diſcontented vaſſals.

A better treatment of the poor in Ireland is a very material point to the welfare of the whole Britiſh empire. Events may happen which may convince us fatally of this truth—If not, oppreſſion muſt have broken all the ſpirit and reſentment of men. By what policy the government of England can for ſo many years have permitted ſuch an abſurd ſyſtem to be matured in Ireland, is beyond the power of plain ſenſe to diſcover.

EMIGRATIONS.

Before the American war broke, the Iriſh and Scotch emigrations were a conſtant ſubject of converſation in England, and occaſioned much diſcourſe even in parliament. The common obſervation was, that if they were not ſtopped, thoſe countries would be ruined, and they were generally attributed to a great riſe of rents. Upon going over to Ireland I determined to omit no opportunities of diſcovering the cauſe and extent of this emigration, and my information, as may be ſeen in the minutes of the journey, was very regular. I have only a few general remarks to make on it here.

The ſpirit of emigrating in Ireland appeared to be confined to two circumſtances, the preſbyterian religion, and the linen manufacture. I heard of very few emigrants except among manufacturers of that perſuaſion. The catholics never went, they ſeem not only tied to the country but almoſt to the pariſh in which their anceſtors lived. As to the emigration in the north, it was an error in England to ſuppoſe it a novelty which aroſe with the increaſe in rents. The contrary was the fact, it had ſubſiſted, perhaps, forty years, inſomuch that at the ports of Belfaſt, Derry, &c. the *paſſenger trade* as they called it, had long been a regular branch of commerce, which employed ſeveral ſhips, and conſiſted in carrying people to America. The increaſing population of the country made it an increaſing trade, but when the linen trade was low, the *paſſenger trade* was always high. At the time of Lord Donnegall's letting his eſtate in the North the linen buſineſs ſuffered a temporary decline, which ſent great numbers to America, and gave riſe to the error that it was occaſioned by the increaſe of his rents: the fact, however, was otherwiſe, for great numbers of thoſe who went from his lands actually ſold thoſe leaſes for conſiderable ſums, the hardſhip of which was ſuppoſed to have driven them to America. Some emigration, therefore, always exiſted, and its increaſe depended on the fluctuations of linen; but as to the *effect*, there was as much error in the concluſions drawn in England as before in the *cauſe*.

It is the misfortune of all manufactures worked for a foreign market to be upon an inſecure footing, periods of declenſion will come, and when in conſequence of them great numbers of people are out of employment, the beſt circumſtance is their enliſting in the army or navy; and it is the common reſult, but unfortunately the manufacture in Ireland (of which I ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak more hereafter), is not confined as it ought to be to towns, but ſpreads into all the cabbins of the country. Being half farmers, half manufacturers, they have too much property in cattle, &c. to enliſt when idle; if they convert it into caſh it will enable them to pay their paſſage to America, an alternative always choſen in preference to the military life. The conſequence is, that they muſt live without work till their ſubſtance is quite conſumed before they will enliſt. Men who are in ſuch a ſituation that from various cauſes they can not work, and won't enliſt, ſhould emigrate, if they ſtay at home they muſt remain a burthen upon the community; emigration ſhould not, therefore, be condemned in ſtates ſo ill governed as to poſſeſs many people willing to work, but without employment.

SECTION VII.

Of Religion.

THE hiſtory of the two religions in Ireland is too generally known to require any detail introductory to the ſubject. The conflict for two centuries occaſioned a ſcene of devaſtation and bloodſhed, till at laſt by the arms of King William the deciſion left the uncontrouled power in the hands of the proteſtants. The landed property of the kingdom had been greatly changed in the period of the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. Still more under Cromwell, who parcelled out an immenſe proportion of the kingdom to the officers of his army, the anceſtors of great numbers of the preſent poſſeſſors: the colonels of his regiments left eſtates which are now eight and ten thouſand a year, and I know ſeveral gentlemen of two and three thouſand pounds a year at preſent which they inherited from captains in the ſame ſervice. The laſt forfeitures were incurred in that war which ſtripped and baniſhed James II. Upon the whole nineteen-twentieths of the kingdom changed hands from catholic to proteſtant. The lineal deſcendants of great families, once poſſeſſed of vaſt property, are now to be found all over the kingdom in the loweſt ſituation, working as cottars for the great great grandſons of men, many of whom were of no greater account in England than theſe poor labourers are at preſent on that property which was once their own. So entire an overthrow, and change of landed poſſeſſion, is within the period to be found in ſcarce any country in the world. In ſuch great revolutions of property the ruined proprietors have uſually been extirpated or baniſhed; but in Ireland the caſe was otherwiſe: families were ſo numerous and ſo united in clans, that the heir of an eſtate was always known; and it is a fact that in moſt parts of the kingdom the deſcendants of the old land owners regularly tranſmit by teſtamentary deed the memorial of their right to thoſe eſtates which once belonged to their families. From hence it reſults that the queſtion of religion has always in Ireland been intimately connected with the right to and poſſeſſion of the landed property of the kingdom; and has probably received from this ſource a degree of acrimony, not at all wanting to influence the ſuperſtitious prejudices of the human mind.

Fluſhed with ſucceſs after the victory of the Boyne, and animated with the recollection of recent injuries, it would not have been ſurprizing if the triumphant party had exceeded the bounds of moderation towards the catholic, but the amazing circumſtance is that the great category of perſecuting laws was not framed during the life of that monarch who wiſely was a friend to toleration: if ever ſuch a ſyſtem as would cruſh the minds of a conquered people into a ſlaviſh ſubmiſſion was neceſſary, it muſt have been under that new, and in many reſpects weak eſtabliſhment, when the late conflict might have been an apparent juſtification: but why ſuch a ſyſtem ſhould be embraced ſix or ſeven years after the death of King William is not ſo eaſy to be accounted for.

By the laws of diſcovery as they are called:

1. The whole body of Roman catholics are abſolutely diſarmed.

2. They are incapacitated from purchaſing land.

3. The entails of their eſtates are broken, and they gavel among the children.

4. If one child abjures that religion, he inherits the whole eſtate, though he is the youngeſt.

5. If the ſon abjures the religion, the father has no power over his eſtate, but becomes a penſioner on it in favour of ſuch ſon.

6. No catholic can take a leaſe for more than thirty-one years.

7. If the rent of any catholic is leſs than two-thirds of the full improved value, whoever diſcovers takes the benefit of the leaſe.

8. Prieſts who celebrate maſs to be tranſported, and if they return to be hanged.

9. A catholic having a horſe in his poſſeſſion above the value of five pounds, to forfeit the ſame to the diſcoverer.

10. By a conſtruction of lord Hardwick's, they are incapacitated from lending money on mortgage *.

The preceding catalogue is very imperfect, but here is an exhibition of oppreſſion fully ſufficient. The great national objects in framing laws againſt the profeſſion and practice of any religion, may be reduced to three heads. 1ſt. The propagation of the dominant faith. 2d. Internal ſecurity. 3d. National proſperity: the faireſt way to judge of the laws of Ireland will be to enquire how far they have anſwered any or all of theſe ends.

That it is a deſirable object in ſome reſpects to have a people if not all of one perſuaſion, at leaſt in good friendſhip and brotherhood, as to religion, is undeniable. Though I think there are reaſons againſt wiſhing a whole kingdom to profeſs only one ſimilar faith. It excludes a variety of diſquiſitions which exerciſe and animate the talents of mankind; it encourages the prieſts of the national religion to a relaxation of their ſtudies, their activity and even their morals, and tends to introduce a lazy, wretched, vicious, and ignorant clergy: it is oppoſition and contraſt that ſharpen the wits of men.

But waving theſe objections, and conſidering the queſtion only in a political view, I admit that ſuch a ſimilarity of worſhip as is followed by laws equal to the whole community to be an advantage, let us therefore examine whether the Iriſh intolerant laws have had the effect or not.

That they have leſſened the landed property in the hands of the catholics is certain; their violence could not have had any other effect, but not, however, to ſuch a degree as might have been imagined. There are principles of honour, religion, and ties of blood too powerful for tyrannic laws to overcome, and which have prevented their full effect. I am not convinced that the converſion of the land owners while all the rabble retained their religion, was an advantage to the kingdom.

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* *Some mitigation of thoſe penal laws has taken place, by an act of the legiſlature in 1778, in favour of thoſe who take and ſubſcribe an oath framed on the occaſion.*

kingdom. Great poſſeſſions gave thoſe landlords an intereſt in the public welfare; which in emergencies of danger might induce them to uſe their influence to keep their dependants quiet; but when none are connected with them richer than themſelves, and the whole party conſiſting of a poor and half ruined peaſantry, and prieſts almoſt as poor as themſelves, what tie, or what call is there upon them to reſtrain the dictates of reſentment and revenge? At this day the beſt ſubjects among the catholics, and many there are very much to be depended on, notwithſtanding all their oppreſſions, are the men of landed property: how impolitic to wiſh to leſſen the number! to be deſirous of cutting off two millions of peaſantry from every poſſible connection that can influence their ſubmiſſion. The ſame obſervation is applicable to mortgages, and in ſhort to all inveſtments of money within the kingdom. Surely the obedience of a man who has property in the realm is much ſecurer than if all he is worth is in the Engliſh or Dutch funds! While property lay expoſed to the practices of power, the great body of the people who had been ſtripped of their all were more enraged than converted: they adhered to the perſuaſion of their forefathers with the ſteadieſt and moſt determined zeal; while the prieſts actuated by the ſpirit of a thouſand inducements, made proſelytes among the common proteſtants in defiance of every danger. And the great glaring fact yet remains, and is even admitted by the warmeſt advocates for the laws of diſcovery, that the eſtabliſhed religion has not gained upon the catholic in point of numbers, but on the contrary that the latter have been rather on the increaſe. Public liſts have been returned in the ſeveral dioceſes which confirm this fact; and the intelligence I received on my journey ſpoke the ſame language.

Now as it is the great body of the common people that form the ſtrength of a country when willing ſubjects, and its weakneſs when ill-affected, this fact is a deciſion of the queſtion: after ſeventy years undiſturbed operation, the ſyſtem adopted in Queen Anne's reign has failed in this great end and aim; and meets at this day with a more numerous and equally determined body of catholics as it had to oppoſe when it was firſt promulgated. Has not the experience of every age, and every nation proved that the effect is invariable and univerſal? Let a religion be what it may, and under whatever circumſtances, no ſyſtem of perſecution ever yet had any other effect than to confirm its profeſſors in their tenets, and ſpread their doctrines inſtead of reſtraining them. Thus the great plea of the Roman catholic prieſts, and their merit with their congregations are the dangers they hazard, and the perſecutions they ſuffer for the ſake of their faith; arguments that ever had and ever will have weight while human nature continues formed of its preſent materials.

The queſtion of internal ſecurity is decided almoſt as ſoon as named: the ſubmiſſion of the catholics is yet felt to be ſo much conſtrained that no idea has been formed, that their being truſted with arms is conſiſtent with the ſafety of the kingdom. Laws founded in the very ſpirit of perſecution, and receiving an edge in their operation from the unlimited power aſſumed by the proteſtant landlord, are ſtrangely calculated to conciliate the affection, or ſecure the loyalty of a people. All the emotions of the heart of man revolt at ſuch an idea. It was the opinion of a vaſt majority of the gentlemen I converſed with on the ſubject, that no people could be worſe affected; all Ireland knows and agrees in the fact, nay, the arguments for a continuation of the laws of diſcovery are founded on the principle, that the lower claſſes of the catholics are not to be truſted. Is not this declaring that the diſarmed, diſguſted multitude, have not loſt in their misfortunes the importance of their numbers? The fears of an invaſion ſpeak the ſtrength of the oppreſſed, and the extent of the oppreſſion.

The diſturbances of the whiteboys, which laſted ten years in ſpite of every exertion of legal power, were in many circumſtances very remarkable, and in none more ſo than the ſurprizing intelligence among the inſurgents where ever found: it was univerſal, and almoſt inſtantaneous: the numerous bodies of them at whatever diſtance from each other ſeemed animated with one ſoul; and not an inſtance was known in that long courſe of time of a ſingle individual betraying the cauſe; the ſevereſt threats, and the moſt ſplendid promiſes of reward had no other effect but to draw cloſer the bands which connected a multitude, to all appearance ſo deſultory. It was then evident that the iron rod of oppreſſion had been far enough from ſecuring the obedience, or cruſhing the ſpirit of the people. And all reflecting men who conſider the value of religious liberty, will wiſh it never may have that effect; will truſt in the wiſdom of Almighty God for teaching man to reſpect even thoſe prejudices of his brethren that are imbibed as ſacred rights from their earlieſt infancy, that by dear bought experience of the futility and ruin of the attempt, the perſecuting ſpirit may ceaſe, and TOLERATION eſtabliſh that harmony and ſecurity which fourſcore years experience has told us is not to be purchaſed at the expence of HUMANITY!

But if theſe exertions of a ſucceſſion of ignorant legiſlatures have failed continually in propagating the religion of government, or in adding to the internal ſecurity of the kingdom, much more have they failed in the great object of national proſperity. The only conſiderable manufacture in Ireland which carries in all its parts the appearance of induſtry is the linen, and it ought never to be forgotten that this is ſolely confined to the proteſtant parts of the kingdom; yet we may ſee from the example of France and other countries that there is nothing in the Roman catholic religion itſelf that is incompatible with manufacturing induſtry. The poor catholics in the ſouth of Ireland ſpin wool very generally, but the purchaſers of their labour, and the whole worſted trade is in the hands of the quakers of Clonmell, Carrick, Bandon, &c. The fact is, the profeſſors of that religion are under ſuch diſcouragements that they cannot engage in any trade which requires both induſtry and capital. If they ſucceed and make a fortune what are they to do with it? They can neither buy land, nor take a mortgage, nor even fine down the rent of a leaſe. Where is there a people in the world to be found induſtrious under ſuch a circumſtance? But it ſeems to be the meaning, wiſh, and intent of the diſcovery laws, that none of them ſhould ever be rich. It is the principle of that ſyſtem that wealthy ſubjects would be nuiſances, and therefore every means is taken to reduce, and keep them to a ſtate of poverty. If this is not the intention of the laws they are the moſt abominable heap of ſelf-contradictions that ever were iſſued in the world. They are framed in ſuch a manner that no catholic ſhall have the inducement to become rich. But if in ſpite of theſe laws he ſhould accidently gain wealth, that the whole kingdom ſhould not afford him a poſſibility of inveſting it. Take the laws and their execution into one view, and this ſtate of the caſe is ſo true, that they actually do not ſeem to be ſo much levelled at the religion, as at the property that is found in it. By the law a prieſt is to be tranſported and hanged for reading maſs, but the maſs is very readily left to them with impunity. Let the ſame prieſt, however, make a fortune by his maſs, and from that moment he is the object of perſecution. The domineering ariſtocracy of five hundred thouſand proteſtants feel the ſweets of having two millions of ſlaves; they have not the leaſt objection to the tenets of that religion which keeps them by the law of the land in ſubjection; but property and ſlavery are too incompatible to live together. Hence the ſpecial care taken that no ſuch thing ſhould ariſe among them.

I muſt be free to own that when I have heard gentlemen who have favoured the laws as they now ſtand, urge the dangerous tenets of the church of Rome, quote the cruelties which have diſgraced that religion in Ireland, and led them into the common routine of declamation on that ſide the queſtion; (I cannot call it argument, for I never yet heard any thing that deſerved the name) when I have been a witneſs to ſuch converſations I could not but ſmile to ſee ſubſcriptions handed about for building a maſs houſe, at the very time that the heavieſt vengeance of the law fully executed fell on thoſe who poſſeſſed a landed property, or ventured a mortgage upon it.

It is no ſuperficial view I have taken of this matter in Ireland, and being at Dublin at the time a very trifling part of theſe laws was agitated in parliament, I attended the debates, with my mind open to conviction, and auditor for the mere purpoſe of information: I have converſed on the ſubject with ſome of the moſt diſtinguiſhed characters in the kingdom, and I cannot after all but declare that the ſcope, purport, and aim of the laws of diſcovery as executed are not againſt the catholic religion which increaſes under them, but againſt the induſtry, and property of whoever profeſſes that religion. In vain has it been ſaid, that conſequence and power follow property, and that the attack is made in order to wound the doctrine through its property. If ſuch was the intention, I reply, that ſeventy years experience prove the folly and futility of it. Thoſe laws have cruſhed all the induſtry, and wreſted moſt of the property from the catholics; but the religion triumphs; it is thought to encreaſe. Thoſe who have handed about calculations to prove a decreaſe, admit on the face of them that it will require FOUR THOUSAND YEARS to make converts of the whole, ſuppoſing that work to go on in future, as it has in the paſt time. But the whole pretence is an affront to common ſenſe, for it implies that you will leſſen a religion by perſecuting it: all hiſtory and experience condemn ſuch a propoſition.

The ſyſtem purſued in Ireland has had no other tendency but that of driving out of the kingdom all the perſonal wealth of the catholics, and prohibiting their induſtry within it. The face of the country, every object in ſhort which preſents itſelf to the eye of a traveller, tells him how effectually this has been done. I urge it not as an argument, the whole kingdom ſpeaks it as a fact. We have ſeen that this conduct has not converted the people to the religion of government; and inſtead of adding to the internal ſecurity of the realm it has endangered it, if therefore it does not add to the national proſperity, for what purpoſe but that of private tyranny could it have been embraced and perſiſted in? Miſtaken ideas of private intereſt account for the actions of individuals, but what could have influenced the Britiſh government to permit a ſyſtem which muſt inevitably prevent the iſland from ever becoming of the importance which nature intended.

Relative to the national welfare it muſt appear extremely evident to the unprejudiced, that an ariſtocracy of five hundred thouſand proteſtants, cruſhing the induſtry of two millions of poor catholics, can never advance the public intereſt. Secure the induſtry of your people, and leave their religion to itſelf. It is their hands not their faith you want; but do not tie theſe behind them, and then aſk why they are not better employed. How is agriculture to flouriſh, manufactures to be eſtabliſhed, or commerce to extend in a dependant country labouring under great diſadvantages, if the united capitals, induſtry, activity and attention of the whole community be not employed for ſuch purpoſes? When the territory of an iſland lies in ſuch a wretched ſtate, that though bleſſed with a better ſoil it yields on compariſon with England as only two to five:

when manufactures are of ſo ſickly a growth as to be confined almoſt to one province, and when trade is known to exiſt only by the ſhips of other countries appearing in the harbours, while a kingdom is in ſuch a ſituation, is it wiſdom to perſiſt in a ſyſtem which has no other effect than to clog, defeat, or exterminate the capital and induſtry of four-fifths of the inhabitants! Surely the gentlemen of that country when they complain of reſtricted commerce, and the remittance of the rentals of the abſentees to England, cannot be thought ſerious in lamenting the ſituation of their country while they continue wedded to that internal ruin which is the work of their own hands, and the favourite child of their moſt active exertions. Complain not of reſtrictions while you yourſelves inforce the moſt enormous reſtriction; and what are the body of abſentees when compared with the abſence of induſtry and wealth from the immenſe maſs of two millions of ſubjects. I ſhould be well founded in the aſſertion that both theſe evils, great and acknowledged as they are, are trifles when compared with the poverty and debility which reſults from the oppreſſion of the Roman catholics. Encourage the induſtry of thoſe two millions of idle people, and the wealth ariſing from it, will make ample amends for moſt of the evils complained of in Ireland. This remedy is in your hands; you have no rivals to fear; no miniſters to oppoſe you.

Think of the loſs to Ireland of ſo many catholics of ſmall property, reſorting to the armies of France, Spain, Sardinia and Auſtria, for employment. Can it be imagined, that they would be ſo ready to leave their own country, if they could ſtay in it with any proſpect of promotion, ſucceſsful induſtry, or even liberal protection? It is known they would not; and that under a different ſyſtem, inſtead of adding ſtrength to the enemies of this empire, they would be among the foremoſt to enrich and defend it. Upon the whole it appears ſufficiently clear, that in theſe three great objects, of making the religion of government general, internal ſecurity, and national proſperity, the laws of diſcovery have totally failed; a long ſeries of experience enables us to diſcuſs the ſubject by a reference to facts, inſtead of a reliance on theory and argument; the language of thoſe facts is ſo uniform, that private intereſt muſt unite with habitual prejudice, to permit it for a moment to be miſunderſtood.

Upon the general queſtion it has been aſſerted by the friends of the law, that gentlemen in England are apt very much to miſtake the point from being ignorant of Iriſh popery, which from the ignorance of the people, is more bigoted than any thing known in the ſiſter kingdom; alſo that the papiſts in England are not claimants of all the landed property, which is the caſe in Ireland.

Both theſe obſervations are too ſhallow to bear the leaſt examination; oppreſſion has reduced the major part of the Iriſh catholics to a poor ignorant rabble; you have made them ignorant, and then it is cried your ignorance is a reaſon for keeping you ſo; you ſhall live and die, and remain in ignorance, for you are too wretched to be enlightened. Take it as argument, or humanity, it is of a moſt precious kind. In all other parts of Europe the catholic religion has grown mild and even tolerant; a ſofter humanity is ſeen diffuſed in thoſe countries, once the moſt bigoted; Spain and Portugal are no longer what they were. Had property taken its natural courſe in Ireland, the religion of the catholics there would have improved with that of their neighbours. Ignorance is the child of poverty, and you cannot expect the modern improvements, which have reſulted from diſſeminated induſtry and wealth, ſhould ſpread among a ſect, whoſe property you have detached, and whoſe induſtry you have cruſhed: to ſtigmatize them with ignorance and bigotry, therefore, is to reproach them with the evils which your own conduct has entailed; it is to bury them in darkneſs, and villify them becauſe they are not enlightened.

But they claim your eſtates; they do ſo, as ſteadily at this moment as they did fourſcore years ago; your ſyſtem therefore has utterly failed even in this reſpect. Has the rod of oppreſſion obliterated the memory or tradition of better days? Has ſeverity conciliated the forgiveneſs of paſt, perhaps neceſſary injuries? Would protection, favour, and encouragement add freſh ſtings to their reſentments? None can aſſert it. Ample experience ought to have convinced you, that the harſhneſs of the law has not annihilated a ſingle claim; if claims could have reſtored their eſtates, they would have regained them before now: but here, as I ſhewed before, the laws have weakened inſtead of ſtrengthening the proteſtant intereſt; had a milder ſyſtem encouraged their induſtry and property, they would have had ſomething to loſe, and would, with an enemy in the land, have thought twice before they joined him; in ſuch a caſe whatever they had got would be endangered, and the hope of being reinſtated in antient poſſeſſions, being diſtant and hazardous, preſent advantage might have induced them not only to be quiet, but to have defended the government, under whoſe humanity they found protection and happineſs. Compare ſuch a ſituation with the preſent, and then determine whether the ſyſtem you have perſiſted in, has added a jot to the ſecurity of your poſſeſſions.

But let me aſk, if theſe catholic claims, on the landed property, were not full as ſtrong an argument in the reign of King William as they are at preſent? The moment of conflict was then but juſt decided; if ever rancour and danger could ariſe from them, that certainly was the ſeaſon of apprehenſion: but it is curious to obſerve, that that wiſe monarch, would permit few acts to paſs to oppreſs the catholics. It was not until the reign of Anne, that the great ſyſtem of oppreſſion was opened: if therefore theſe laws were unneceſſary from the revolution to the death of King William, and the experience of that reign tells us they were not, moſt certainly they cannot be ſo at preſent.

The enlightened ſpirit of TOLERATION, ſo well underſtood and practiſed in the greateſt part of Europe, is making progreſs every day, ſave in Ireland alone: while the proteſtant religion enjoys peace and protection in catholic countries; why ſhould a nation, in all other reſpects ſo generous and liberal as the Iriſh, refuſe at home what they receive and enjoy abroad.

As the abſurdity of the preſent ſyſtem can no longer be doubted, the queſtion is, in what degree it ſhould immediately be changed? Would it be prudent directly to arm, and put upon a level with the reſt of the community, ſo large and neceſſarily, ſo diſguſted a body of the people? Great ſudden changes are rarely prudent; old habits are not immediately laid aſide; and the temper of men's minds, nurſed in ignorance, ſhould have time to open and expand, that they may clearly comprehend their true intereſts: for this reaſon the alteration of the laws ſhould be gradual, rather than by one or two repealing clauſes, at once to overthrow the whole. But all things conſidered, there ought not to be a ſingle ſeſſions without doing ſomething in ſo neceſſary a work. For inſtance, in one ſeſſions to give them a power of taking mortgages; in another of purchaſing lands; in a third, to repeal the abominable premiums on the diviſion of a family againſt itſelf, by reſtoring to parents their rights; in a fourth, maſs to be rendered legal; in a fifth, a ſeminary, to be eſtabliſhed by law, for the education of prieſts, and a biſhop to be allowed, with thoſe powers which are neceſſary for the exerciſe of the religion; by which means the foreign intereſt from a prieſthood, entirely educated abroad, would be at once cut off. Thus far the moſt zealous friends to the proteſtant religion could not object upon any well founded principles. When once the operations of the new ſyſtem had raiſed a ſpirit of induſtry, and attendant wealth among the lower claſſes of them, no evil conſequences would flow from permitting them the uſe of arms. Give them an intereſt in the kingdom, and they will uſe their arms, not to overturn, but to defend it. Upon firſt principles, it is a miſerable government, which acknowledges itſelf incapable of retaining men to their obedience that have arms in their hands; and ſuch an one as is to be found in Ireland alone. In like manner I ſhould apprehend that it might be proper to give them a voice in the election of members of parliament. There is great reaſon to believe, that they will not be treated by gentlemen in the country in the manner they ought to be, until this ſort of importance is given them.

Let it in general be remembered, that no country in the world has felt any inconveniences from the moſt liberal ſpirit of toleration: that on the contrary, thoſe are univerſally acknowledged to be the moſt proſperous, and the moſt flouriſhing, which have governed their ſubjects on the moſt tolerating principles. That other countries, which have been actuated by the ſpirit of bigotry, have continued poor, weak, and helpleſs: theſe are circumſtances which bear ſo immediately upon the queſtion, that we may determine, without any hazard of extravagance, that Ireland will never proſper to any great degree until ſhe profits by the example of her neighbours. Let her diſmiſs her illiberal fears and apprehenſions; let her keep pace with the improvement of the age, and with the mild ſpirit of European manners, let her transfer her anxiety from the faith to the induſtry of her ſubjects; let her embrace, cheriſh, and protect the catholics as good ſubjects, and they will become ſuch; let her, deſpiſing and deteſting every ſpecies of religious perſecution, conſider all religions as brethren, employed in one great aim, the wealth, power, and happineſs of the general community; let theſe be the maxims of her policy, and ſhe will no longer complain of poverty and debility, ſhe will be at home proſperous, and abroad formidable.

SECTION VIII.

Price of Proviſions.

IN the ſpeculations of modern politicians, ſo many concluſions have been drawn from the prices of proviſions in different countries, and ſome of them with ſo much reaſon, that every one muſt readily admit a conſiderable degree of importance to be annexed to ſuch information: with this view, I was as particular in theſe enquiries as I had been before in my Engliſh journies. The following table ſhews the reſult.

Places.	Beef. per lb.		Mutton. per lb.		Veal. per lb.		Pork. per lb.		Butter. per lb.		Chick.		Turkey		Goose.	
	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.
Dublin,	3	2	3	2	5		3	2	8		12		30		18	
Luthelſtown,	3	2	3	2	4		3		8							
Kilcock,	2	2	3	1	3	1	2	2	6	2	2	2	12		8	3
Slane,	3	1	3	2	4		1	3	6		3		10		6	
Packenham,	2	2	3	2	4		3		6		3		12		8	
Tullamore,	2	3	2		3		2	1	2		2				8	
Shaen Caſtle,	2	2	2	2	3		2	1	5	2	2	2	13		7	
Carlow,	2	2	2	3	3		3		6		2		12		8	
Kilfaine,	2	2	2	2			2		6	2	2		8		6	2
Taghmon,	2		2	2	2		2				2		8		7	2
Forth,	2		2	2	2	2	2		7							
Proſpect,	2	2	2	2					5		2		6		12	
Mount Kennedy,	3	2	3	2	5		3	2	8							
Market Hill,	3		3	2	4		2	2	6		2	2	18		11	
Ardmagh,	2	3	3		3	1	3	1	5	2	2	2	16		13	
Warrenſtown,	2	3	3		3		2	2	5		2		15		12	
Portaferry,	2	3	2	2	3		2		5		1	3	13		13	
Shaen Caſtle,	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	5		1	2			13	
Belfaſt,	2	3	3		2	2	2	2	5		2	2	12		14	
Leſly Hill,	2		3		3	2	2	2	4	2	2		12		12	
Limavaddy,	2	3	3	1	3	1	2		5	1	1	2	12		12	
Inniſhoen,	2	1	2	2	3		2	2	4	2	2					
Clonleigh,	3		2	2	3	2	2	2	5	2	2		12		13	
Mount Charles,	2		2	2	3	2	2		4		1		12		6	
Caſtle Caldwell,	2	1	3		3	1	2		3	2	2		10		5	2
Belle Iſle,	2		2				1	3	5		1	2	6		6	
Florence Court,	2	2	3				2		4	2	2		12		6	
Farnham,	2	2	3		3	3	1	3	5		1	3	12		8	
Ballynogh,	2	2	2	1			1	2	4	2	2		9		6	
Strokeſtown,	2		2	3	4		1	2	4		2		7	2	3	2
Macry,	2	1	2		3	2	1	3	5		2		8		8	
Sortland,	3		3		4		2				1	2	8		6	
Kilalla,	2	1	2	2			2		4	3	2		13		8	
Weſtport,	2	1	3				2		6		1	3	10		3	1
Moniva,	3		3				2		6		2		10		9	
Drumoland,	2	2	2	2			2		7		1	2	6		6	
Limerick,	2	3	2	2			2	1	5		2	2	5		6	
Donneraile,	2	2	2	2			2	2	7		2	3	8		4	1
Corke,	3		3		3		2	2	7	2	2	6	10		6	
Nedeen,	1	3	2				1	3	6		2				6	
Arbella,	2	3	2	2					4	2	1	2	10	2	6	
Tarbat,	2	2	2	2			2	1	5							
Caſtle Oliver,	3		3				2	2								
Tipperary,	3		3				2	2			2	3	12		12	
Curraghmore,	3		3		3	3	2	1	6							
Waterford,	3		3		3	2	2	2	7		3		12		10	
Furneſs,	2	3	2	3	4	3	2	3	8		3		12		12	
Gloſter,	2	2	2	3	2	3	2		5	2	2	3	12		12	
Johnſtown,	3		3	2	3		3		6		3		11		6	
Derry,	2	2	3		6		3		5		2		10		12	
Caſtle Lloyd,	3		2	3	2	2	2	2	6		2		7	2	5	
Mitchel's Town,	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	6		2	2	8		8	
Average,	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	5	3	2	2	10	3	8	2

In order for a compariſon, I ſhall add the prices of my Engliſh tours.

	Butter.	*Mutton.*	*Beef.*	*Veal.*	*Pork.*
The Southern Tour 1767, —	6½	4¼	4	3¾	
The Northern Tour 1768,	6	3	3	3	3½
The Eaſtern Tour 1770, —	6½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Average of the three, —	6¼	3½	3½	3¼	3½
Ireland in 1776, — —	5¾	2¾	2½	3½	2¼

Average of the four meats in England, — 3½d.
Ditto in Ireland — — — 3¾d.
Ireland to England as 11 to 14.

I ſhould remark, that there has been very little variation in the prices of meat in England ſince the dates of thoſe journies: the rates in Ireland are higher than I conceived them, and do not from cheapneſs afford any reaſon to conclude that country, as far as cattle extends, to be in a ſtate of backwardneſs. The whole of theſe minutes, however, concerns the home conſumption only, for as to the immenſe trade in beef and pork (of which hereafter) their rates are conſiderably under theſe, as may be ſuppoſed from the greatneſs of the ſcale, in like manner as the conſumption prices in England are near double thoſe of the victualling office.

Poultry being ſo extremely cheap is owing to ſeveral cauſes: Firſt, The ſmallneſs of the demand; the towns are few, ſmall, and poor; and all gentlemen's families raiſe a quantity for themſelves. Second, The plenty of potatoes, upon which they are fed, being vaſtly greater, and diſpenſed with leſs œconomy than the corn in England, upon which poultry is there reared. Third, the extreme warmth of the cabbins, in in which the young broods are nouriſhed. Fourth, The natural produce of white clover, which is much greater than in England, and upon the ſeeds of which, young turkies, in particular, are advantageouſly fed. I know a gentleman in England, who reared an amazing number of turkies and peachicks the year his lawn was ſown with white clover, but the ſoil being improper it laſted but one year, and he neither before nor after had ſuch ſucceſs with thoſe broods.

SECTION IX.

Roads—Cars.

FOR a country ſo very far behind us as Ireland, to have got ſuddenly ſo much the ſtart of us in the article of roads, is a ſpectacle that cannot fail to ſtrike the Engliſh traveller exceedingly. But from this commendation the turnpikes in general muſt be excluded, they are as bad as the buy roads are admirable. It is a common complaint, that the tolls of the turnpikes are ſo many jobs, and the roads left in a ſtate that diſgrace the kingdom.

The following is the ſyſtem on which the croſs roads are made. Any perſon wiſhing to make or mend a road, has it meaſured by two perſons, who ſwear to the meaſurement before a juſtice of the peace. It is deſcribed as leading from one market town to another (it matters not in what direction) that it will be a public good, and that it will require ſuch a ſum, per perch of twenty-one feet, to make or repair the ſame; a certificate to this purpoſe (of which printed forms are ſold) with the blanks filled up, is ſigned by the meaſurers, and alſo by two perſons called overſeers, one of whom is uſually the perſon applying for the road, the other the labourer he intends to employ as an overſeer of the work, which overſeer ſwears alſo before the juſtice the truth of the valuation. The certificate, thus prepared, is given by any perſon to ſome one of the grand jury, at either of the aſſizes, but uſually in the ſpring. When all the common buſineſs of trials is over, the jury meets on that of roads; the chairman reads the certificates, and they are all put to the vote, whether to be granted or not. If rejected, they are torn in pieces and no farther notice taken, if granted they are put on the file.

This vote of approbation, without any farther form, enables the perſon, who applied for the preſentment, immediately to conſtruct or repair the road in queſtion, which he muſt do at his own expence, he muſt finiſh it by the following aſſizes, when he is to ſend a certificate of his having expended the money purſuant to the application; this certificate is ſigned by the foreman, who alſo ſigns an order on the treaſurer of the county to pay him, which is done immediately. In like manner are bridges, houſes of correction, gaols, &c. &c. built and repaired. If a bridge over a river, which parts two counties, half is done by one, and the other half by the other county.

The expence of theſe works is raiſed by a tax on the lands, paid by the tenant; in ſome counties it is acreable, but in others it is on the *plough land*, and as no two plough lands are of the ſame ſize, is a very unequal tax. In the county of Meath it is acreable, and amounts to one ſhilling per acre, being the higheſt in Ireland; but in general it is from threepence to ſixpence per acre, and amounts of late years, through the whole kingdom, to one hundred and forty thouſand pounds a year.

The juries will very rarely grant a preſentment for a road, which amounts to about fifty pounds, or for more than ſix or ſeven ſhillings a perch, ſo that if a perſon wants more to be made than ſuch a ſum will do, he divides it into two or three different meaſurements or preſentments. By the act of parliament all preſentment roads muſt be twenty-one feet wide at leaſt from fence to fence, and fourteen feet of it formed with ſtone or gravel.

As the power of the grand jury extends in this manner to the cutting new roads, where none ever were before, as well as to the repairing and widening old ones, excluſive, however, of parks, gardens, &c. it was neceſſary to put a reſtriction againſt the wanton expence of it. Any preſentment may be traverſed that is oppoſed, by denying the allegations of the certificate; this is ſure of delaying it until another aſſizes, and in the mean time perſons are appointed to view the line of road demanded, and report on the neceſſity or hardſhip of the caſe. The payment of the money may alſo be traverſed after the certificate of its being laid out; for if any perſon views, and finds it a manifeſt impoſition and job, he has that power to delay payment until the cauſe is cleared up and proved. But this traverſe is not common. Any perſons are eligible for aſking preſentments; but it is uſually done only by reſident gentlemen, agents, clergy, or reſpectable tenantry. It follows neceſſarily, that every perſon is deſirous of making the roads leading to his own houſe, and that private intereſt alone is conſidered in it, which I have heard objected to the meaſure; but this I muſt own appears to me the great merit of it. Whenever individuals act for the public alone, the public is very badly ſerved; but when the purſuit of their own intereſt is the way to benefit the public, then is the public good ſure to be promoted; ſuch is the caſe of preſentment of roads; for a few years the good roads were all found leading from houſes like rays from a center, with a ſurrounding ſpace, without any communication; but every year brought the remedy, until in a ſhort time, thoſe rays, pointing from ſo many centers, met, and then the communication was complete. The original act paſſed but ſeventeen years ago; and the effect of it in all parts of the kingdom is ſo great, that I found it perfectly practicable to travel upon wheels by a map; I will go here. I will go there; I could trace a route upon paper as wild as fancy could dictate, and every where I found beautiful roads without break or hindrance, to enable me to realize my deſign. What a figure would a perſon make in England, who ſhould attempt to move in that manner, where the roads, as Dr. Burn has very well obſerved, are almoſt in as bad a ſtate as in the time of Philip and Mary. In a few years there will not be a piece of bad road except turnpikes in all Ireland. The money raiſed for this firſt and moſt important of all national purpoſes, is expended among the people who pay it, employs themſelves and their teams, encourages their agriculture, and facilitates ſo greatly the improvement of waſte lands, that it ought always to be conſidered as the firſt ſtep to any undertaking of that ſort.

At firſt, roads in common with bridges, were paid out of the general treaſure of the county, but by a ſubſequent act, the road tax is now on baronies; each barony pays for its own roads. By another act, juries were enabled to grant preſentments of narrow mountain roads, at two ſhillings and ſixpence a perch. By another, they were empowered to grant preſentments of footpaths, by the ſide of roads, to one ſhilling a perch. By a very late act, they are alſo enabled to contract, at three halfpence per perch per annum, from the firſt making of a road, for keeping it in repair, which before could not be done without a freſh preſentment. Arthur French, Eſq; of Moniva, whoſe agriculture is deſcribed in the preceding minutes, and who at that time repreſented the county of Galway, was the worthy citizen who firſt brought this excellent meaſure into parliament: Ireland, and every traveller that ever viſits it, ought, to the lateſt time, to revere the memory of ſuch a diſtinguiſhed benefactor to the public. Before that time the roads, like thoſe of England, remained impaſſable, under the miſerable police of the ſix days labour. Similar good effects would here flow from adopting the meaſure, which would eaſe the kingdom of a great burthen in its public effect abſolutely contemptible; and the tax here, as in Ireland, ought to be ſo laid, as to be borne by the tenant, whoſe buſineſs it is at preſent to repair.

Upon the imperfections of the Iriſh ſyſtem I have only to remark, that juries ſhould, in ſome caſes be more ready than they are to grant theſe preſentments. In general, they are extremely liberal, but ſometimes they take ſilly freaks of giving none, or very few. Experience having proved from the general goodneſs of the roads, that abuſes cannot be very great, they ſhould go on with ſpirit to perfect the great work throughout the kingdom; and as a check upon thoſe who lay out the money, it might perhaps be adviſeable to print county maps of the preſentment roads, with correſponding liſts and tables of the names of all perſons who have obtained preſentments, the ſums they received, and for what roads. Theſe ſhould be given freely by the jurymen, to all their acquaintance, that every man might know, to whoſe careleſſneſs or jobbing, the public was indebted for bad roads, when they had paid for good ones. Such a practice would certainly deter many.

At 1,142,642 acres in the kingdom, one hundred and forty thouſand pounds a year amounts to juſt threepence an acre for the whole territory, a very trifling tax for ſuch an improvement,

ment, and which almoſt ranks in public eaſe and benefit with that of the poſt-office.

It is not to this ſyſtem ſingly, that Ireland is indebted for the goodneſs of her roads; another circumſtance calls materially for obſervation, which is the vehicle of carriage: all land-carriage in that kingdom is performed with one-horſe cars or carts. Thoſe of the poor people are wretched things, formed with a view to cheapneſs alone; and the loads they carry on them when working by the day, are ſuch as an Engliſhman would be aſhamed to take in a wheelbarrow, yet they ſuffer their horſes to walk ſo ſlow with theſe burthens, that I am confident, work of this ſort, done by hire, is five hundred per cent. dearer than in England. Even when they work for themſelves, their loads are contemptible, and not equal to what their *garrens*, miſerable as they are, would draw. Cars, however, which work regularly for mills in carrying flour to Dublin, do better; the common load is from ſix to ten hundred weight, which, conſidering the horſes, is very well; eighteen hundred weight has been often carried thither from Slane mills. The lowneſs of the wheels ſuits a mountainous country; but if there is truth in the mechanic powers, is in general a great diſadvantage to the animal. Great numbers of theſe cars conſiſt only of a flat bottom over the axletree, on which a few ſacks, logs, or ſtones, may be laid, or a little heap of gravel in the center. Others have ſide-boards, and ſome baſkets fixed. But ſuch an imperfect and miſerable machine deſerves not a moment's attention; the object of importance ariſing only from one horſe for draught.

Some gentlemen have carts very well made in reſpect of ſtrength, but ſo heavy, as to be almoſt as faulty as the common car. Others have larger and heavier two-horſe carts; and a few have been abſurd enough to introduce Engliſh waggons. The well-made roads preſerving themſelves for ſo many years, is owing to this practice of uſing one-horſe carriages, which is worthy of univerſal imitation. Notwithſtanding the expence beſtowed on the turnpikes in England, great numbers of them are in a moſt wretched ſtate, which will continue while the legiſlature permits ſo many horſes to be harneſſed in one carriage. A proof how little one-horſe carriages wear roads, is the method uſed in Ireland to conſtruct them; they throw up a foundation of earth in the middle of the ſpace from the outſides, on that they immediately form a layer of limeſtone, broken to the ſize of a turkey's egg; on this a thin ſcattering of earth to bind the ſtones together, and over that a coat of gravel, where it is to be had. Their carriages conſidered, no fault is to be found with this mode, for the road is beautiful and durable, but being all finiſhed at once, with very little or no time for ſettling, an Engliſh waggon would preſently cut through the whole, and demoliſh the road as ſoon as made, yet it is perfectly durable under cars and coaches.

I have weighed common cars in Ireland, and find the lighteſt weigh 2C. 2qrs. 14lb. good carts for one horſe at Mr. O'Neil's, 4C. 2qrs. 21lb. and Lord Kingſborough had larger carts from Dublin, with five-feet wheels, which weighed 7C. but theſe are much too heavy, in the lightneſs of the machine conſiſts a great part of the merit. A common Engliſh waggon with nine-inch wheels from 55Cwt. to three tons. I built a narrow wheeled one in Suffolk for four horſes, the weight of which was 25Cwt.

	Cwt.	qrs.	lb.
Every horſe in the Iriſh car draws, weight of carriage, — —	2	2	14
In Mr. O'Neil's carts, — —	4	2	21
In Lord Kingſborough's, —	7	0	0
In a broad wheeled waggon, —	7	1	0
In a narrow ditto, — —	6	1	0

The extreme lightneſs of the common car is not to be taken into the queſtion, as it is inapplicable to a profitable load of any thing, except a ſingle block, or ſacks. It is abſolutely neceſſary a cart ſhould be capacious enough for a very light but bulky load, ſuch as malt duſt, bran, dry aſhes, &c. as well as for hay and ſtraw. The Suffolk waggon for four horſes is twelve feet long, four broad, and two deep in the ſides and ends, conſequently, the body of it contains juſt 96 cubical feet; the end ladders extended for hay or ſtraw four feet more, and there was a fixed ſide one, which added two feet to the breadth, conſequently the ſurface on which hay was built, extended juſt ninety-ſix ſquare feet. In a great variety of uſes, to which I applied that waggon, I found four middling horſes, worth about twelve pounds each, would draw a full load of every thing in it; viz. from fifty to ſixty hundred weight of hay, twelve quarters of wheat, or fifty-five hundred weight, and the ſullage of Bury ſheets by computation, judging by the labour of the horſes to a much greater weight, perhaps above three tons. I have more than once taken theſe meaſures as a guide for a one-horſe cart, to give one horſe an exact proportion of what four did in that waggon, the dimenſions of the cart muſt be as follow: the body of it muſt be juſt four feet long, three feet broad, and two feet deep; the end ladders each one foot, and the ſide ones ſix inches. This will be upon a par with the waggon; but I gave the carts the advantage, by end ladders being each eighteen inches, and the ſide ones twelve, which made the whole ſurface thirty-five ſquare feet, four times which is one hundred and forty inſtead of ninety-ſix. The weight of theſe carts complete were from four to five hundred; the wheels five feet high, and the axletree iron, which is eſſential to a light draft; ſuch carts coſt in England, complete and painted, from nine pounds to ten guineas. Whoever tries them will find a horſe will draw in them far more than the fourth of the load of a four horſe team, or than the eighth of an eight-horſe one, for he will in a tolerably level country draw a ton.

I have often converſed with the drivers of carriers waggons, as well as with intelligent carters in the ſervice of farmers, and their accounts have united with my own obſervation, to prove that one horſe in eight, and to the amount of half a horſe in four, are always abſolutely idle, moving on without drawing any weight; a moſt unremitting attention is neceſſary even for a partial remedy of this, but with careleſs drivers the evil is greater; hence, the ſuperiority of horſes drawing ſingle, in which mode they cannot fail of performing their ſhare of the work. The expence, trouble and diſappointment of an accident, are in proportion to the ſize of the team; with a broad wheeled waggon and eight horſes, they are very great, but with eight carts they are very trifling; if one breaks down, the load and cart are eaſily diſtributed among the other ſeven, and little time loſt. When buſineſs is carried on by means of ſingle horſe carts, every horſe in a ſtable is employed; but with waggons, he who keeps one, two, or three horſes, muſt ſtand ſtill; and what is to be done with five, ſix, or ſeven? It is only four or eight horſes that form an exact team; but the great object is the preſervation of the roads; to ſave theſe the legiſlature has preſcribed wheels, even ſixteen inches broad, but all ſuch machines are ſo enormouſly heavy, that they are ruinous to thoſe who uſe them; beſides, they form ſuch exact paths for the following teams to walk in, that the hardeſt road is preſently cut into ruts, the moſt ſolid materials ground into duſt, and every exertion in repairing baffled as faſt as tried. Roads, which are made annually at a vaſt expence, are found almoſt impaſſable from the weights carried in waggons. It may be aſſerted, without exaggeration, that if there were nothing but one-horſe carriages in England, half the preſent highway expence might be ſaved, and the roads at the ſame time incomparably better.

It muſt be admitted, that the expence of drivers would at firſt be greater, for a man would not drive above three of them; a man and two boys would do for nine: but why they ſhould not be as well managed here as in Ireland I cannot ſee; a man there will often drive five, ſix, or even eight cars. I have myſelf ſeen a ſingle girl drive ſix. Even in this reſpect there is an advantage which does not attend waggons, a boy could any where manage one or two, but twenty boys would not be truſted to drive a waggon. Granting, however, that the expence under this head was ſomething greater, ſtill is it vaſtly more than counterbalanced by the ſuperior advantages ſtated above, which render it an equal object to individuals and the public.

SECTION X.

Timber—Planting.

THROUGH every part of Ireland, in which I have been, one hundred contiguous acres are not to be found without evident ſigns, they were once wood, or at leaſt very well wooded. Trees, and the roots of trees of the largeſt ſize, are dug up in all the bogs; and in the cultivated countries, the ſtumps of trees deſtroyed ſhew that the deſtruction has not been of any antient date. A vaſt number of the Iriſh names for hills, mountains, vallies and plains, have foreſts, woods, groves, or trees for the ſignification; Lord Kingſborough has an hundred thouſand acres about Mitchelſtown, in which you muſt take a breathing gallop to find a ſtick large enough to beat a dog, yet is there not an encloſure without the remnants of trees, many of them large; nor is it a peculiarity to that eſtate: in a word the greateſt part of the kingdom exhibits a naked, bleak, dreary view for want of wood, which has been deſtroyed for a century paſt, with the moſt thoughtleſs prodigality, and ſtill continues to be cut and waſted, as if it was not worth the preſervation. The Baltic fir ſupplies all the uſes of the kingdom, even thoſe for which nothing is proper but oak; and the diſtance of all the ports of Ireland from that ſea, makes the ſupply much dearer than it is in England.

In converſation with gentlemen, I found they very generally laid the deſtruction of timber to the common people; who, they ſay, have an averſion to a tree; at the earlieſt age they ſteal it for a walking-ſtick; afterwards for a ſpade handle; later for a car ſhaft; and later ſtill for a cabbin rafter; that the poor do ſteal it is certain, but I am clear the gentlemen of the country may thank themſelves. Is it the conſumption of ſticks and handles that has deſtroyed millions of acres? Abſurdity! The profligate, prodigal, worthleſs landowner cuts down his acres, and leaves them unfenced againſt cattle, and then he has the impudence to charge the ſcarcity of trees to the walking-ſticks of the poor, goes into the houſe of commons and votes for an act, which lays a penalty of forty ſhillings on any poor man having a twig in his poſſeſſion, which he cannot account for. This act, and twenty more in the ſame ſpirit, ſtands at preſent a monument of their ſelf-condemnation and oppreſſion. They have made wood ſo ſcarce, that the wretched cottars cannot procure enough for their neceſſary conſumption, and then they paſs penal laws on their ſtealing, or even poſſeſſing, what it is impoſſible for them to buy. If by another act you would hang up all the landlords who cut woods without fencing, and deſtroy trees without planting, you would lay your axe to the root of the evil, and rid the kingdom of ſome of the greateſt peſts in it; but in the name of humanity and common ſenſe, let the poor alone, for whoſe ſtealing in this, as in moſt other caſes, nobody ought to be anſwerable but yourſelves. I was an eye-witneſs in various parts of the kingdom, of woods cut down and not copſed. The honeſteſt poor upon earth, if in the ſame ſituation as the Iriſh, would be ſtealers of wood, for they muſt either ſteal or go without what is an abſolute neceſſary of life. Inſtead of being the deſtroyers of trees, I am confident they may be made preſervers of them; recollect Sir William Oſborne's mountaineers, to whom he gave a few Lombardy poplars, they cheriſhed them with as much care as his own gardener could have done. At Mitchelſtown, I had opportunities of making obſervations which convinced me of the ſame thing; I ſaw in every reſpect, indeed all over Ireland, the greateſt readineſs to do whatever would recommend them to their landlord's favour. I had three plans relative to wood, which I have reaſon to believe would anſwer in any part of the kingdom: *Firſt*, To give premiums to the cottars who planted and *preſerved trees*, and not to let it depend on the premium alone, but to keep a liſt of thoſe who appeared as candidates, and upon every other occaſion to let them be objects of favour. *Second*, To force all the tenantry to plant under the following clauſe in their leaſes:

" *And alſo, that the ſaid A. B. his heirs and aſſigns, ſhall and*
" *will, every year, during the continuance of this demiſe, well and*
" *truly plant, and thoroughly ſecure until the end of the ſaid term,*
" *from all injury or damage by cattle, or otherwiſe, one timber tree*
" *for every   acres that are contained in the herein demiſed*
" *premiſes, provided that ſuch trees ſhall be ſupplied gratis, on de-*
" *mand, by the ſaid C. D. his heirs and aſſigns; and in caſe any*
" *trees ſhall die or fail, that in ſuch caſe the ſaid A. B. ſhall and*
" *will plant in the year next after ſuch death or failure, an equal*
" *number of timber trees in the ſaid demiſed premiſes, in the place*
" *or ſtead of ſuch tree or trees ſo dying or failing as aforeſaid; and*
" *in caſe, at the expiration of the ſaid demiſe, the proper number of*
" *trees, of a due age, according to the meaning and intent of theſe*
" *premiſes, be not left growing and ſtanding upon the ſaid demiſed*
" *premiſes, or ſome part thereof, that then the ſaid A. B. his heirs or*
" *aſſigns, ſhall forfeit and pay unto the ſaid C. D. his heirs and*
" *aſſigns, the ſum of five ſhillings for every tree ſo deficient by death,*
" *failure, injury, or negligence.*"

The proportion of acres per tree to be according to circumſtances. It ſhould always be remembered, that the clauſes of a leaſe rarely execute themſelves; it is the landlord or his agent's attention that muſt make them efficient. A tenantry every where is very much dependent, unleſs leaſes for lives are given, but I ſuppoſe them for twenty-one years. In Ireland their poverty makes this dependance ſtill greater. They aſk time for the payment of their rent; they run in arrears; they are threatened or driven; if they pay well, ſtill they have ſome favour to aſk, or expect; in a word, they are in ſuch a ſituation, that *attention* would ſecure the moſt entire compliance with ſuch a clauſe. If once, or twice, upon an eſtate, a man was drove for his rent, who neglected the trees, while another in the ſame circumſtances had time given him, becauſe he preſerved them, the effect would preſently be ſeen. *Third*, To have a magazine of ſticks, ſpade handles, pieces for cars, and cabbins, &c. laid in at the cheapeſt rate, and kept for ſelling at prime coſt to whoever would buy them. Theſe would want to be purchaſed but for a few years, as ſmall plantations of the timber willow would in four years furniſh an ample ſupply.

That theſe three circumſtances united, would preſently plant a country I am convinced; I ſaw a willingneſs among Lord Kingſborough's little tenants do it, ſome even who made a beginning the very firſt year; and hundreds aſſured me of their moſt aſſiduous compliance. Such a plan moſt certainly ſhould not preclude large annual plantations on the land which a gentleman keeps in hand; but the beauty of the country depends on trees, ſcattered over the whole face of it. What a figure would Ireland make on a compariſon with its preſent ſtate, if one tree now ſtood by each cabbin! but it is the ſpirit of the Iriſh nation to attempt every thing by laws, and then leave thoſe laws to execute themſelves, which indeed with many of them is not at all amiſs. It is by no means clear, whether the act which gives to the tenant a property in the trees he plants, to be aſcertained by a jury at the end of the leaſe, and paid by the landlord, has any great tendency to encreaſe the quantity of wood. It has unfortunately raiſed an undecided queſtion of law, whether the act goes to trees, which were originally furniſhed from the landlord's nurſery, or planted in conſequence of a clauſe in a leaſe. If it ſhould ſo interfere with ſuch plantations, it would be highly miſchievous: Alſo, for a man to be forced either to buy or to ſell his property, at the price fixed by a jury, is a harſh circumſtance. To this cauſe it is probably owing, that the plantations made in conſequence of that act, are perfectly inſignificant.

I have made many very minute calculations of the expence, growth, and value of plantations in Ireland, and am convinced from them that there is no application of the beſt land in that kingdom will equal the profit of planting the worſt in it. A regard for the intereſt of poſterity call for the oak and other trees which require more than an age to come to maturity, but with other views the quick growing ones are of profit much ſuperior; theſe come to perfection ſo ſpeedily that three-fourths of the landlords of the kingdom might expect to cut where they planted, and reap thoſe great profits, which moſt certainly attend it. There are timber willows (ſallies as they are called in Ireland) which riſe with incredible rapidity. I have meaſured them at Mr. Bolton's near Waterford twenty-one feet high in the third year from the planting, and as ſtrait as a larch. With this willow, woods would ariſe as it were by enchantment, and all ſorts of farm offices and cabbins might be built of it in ſeven years from planting. Is it not inexcuſable to complain of a want of wood when it is to be had with ſo much eaſe? Larch and beech thrive wonderfully wherever I have ſeen them planted; and the Lombardy poplar makes the ſame luxuriant ſhoots for which it is famous in England; and though a ſoft wood yet it is applicable to ſuch a multiplicity of purpoſes, and ſo eaſily propagated, that it deſerves the greateſt attention.

As to oak they are always planted in Ireland, from a nurſery I have ſeen very handſome trees as old as fifteen years, ſome perhaps older, but even at that age they run incomparably more into head than plants in England which have never been tranſplanted. It is a great misfortune that a century at leaſt is neceſſary to prove the miſchief of the practice: We know by moſt ample experience that the noble oaks in England applicable to the uſe of the large ſhips of war, were all *ſown* where they remained. That tree puſhes its tap root ſo powerfully that I have the greateſt reaſon to believe the future growth ſuffers eſſentially from its being injured, and I defy the moſt ſkilful nurſeryman to take them up upon a large ſcale without breaking, if it is broke in the part where it is an almoſt imperceptible thread, it is juſt the ſame as cutting it off in a larger part, the ſteady perpendicular power is loſt, and the ſurface roots muſt feed the plant, theſe may do for a certain growth, and to a certain period, but the tree will never become the ſovereign of the foreſt, or the waves. I know ſeveral plantations of ſown oak in England from twelve to thirty, and ſome forty years growth, which are truly beautiful, and infinitely beyond any thing I have ſeen in Ireland.

The woods yet remaining in that kingdom are what in England would be called copſes. They are cut down at various growths, ſome being permitted to ſtand forty years. Attentive landlords fence when they cut to preſerve the future ſhoots, others do not. But this is by no means the ſyſtem with a view to which I recommend planting, timber of any kind cut as ſuch will pay double and treble what the ſhoots from any ſtubs in the world will do. They may come to a tolerable ſize, and yield a large value; but the profit is not to be compared with. To explain this, permit me one or two remarks.

If willow, poplars, aſh, &c. are planted for timber to be cut at whatever age, ten, twenty or thirty years; when cut the ſtools will throw out many ſhoots, but let it not be imagined that theſe ſhoots will ever again become timber; they will never be any thing but copſe wood, and attended in future with no more than the copſe profit, which is not half that of timber, in ſuch a caſe the land ſhould be new planted, and the old ſtools either grubbed up for fuel, or elſe the growth from them cut very often for faggots till the new timber gets up enough to drip on and deſtroy it. The common practice in Ireland is cutting young trees down when they do not ſhoot well, this is converting timber to copſe wood; attention to cutting off all the ſhoots but one will train up a ſtem, but I queſtion whether it will ever make a capital tree: if the other ſhoots are not annually cut it will never be any tree at all; and yet it is certainly a fact that the new ſhoot is much finer than the old one, which perhaps would have come to nothing; but better remove it entirely than depend on new ſhoots for making timber. The gentlemen in that kingdom are much too apt to think they have got timber, when in fact they have nothing but fine large copſe wood. A ſtrong proof of this is the great double-ditches made thirty or forty years ago, and planted with double rows of trees, generally aſh, theſe for two reaſons are uſually (for the age) not half ſo good as trees of the ſame growth in England; one is, many of them were cut when young, and aroſe from ſtools; the other is their growing out of a high dry bank, full of the roots of four rows of white thorn or apple quick, beſides thoſe of the trees themſelves. It is a fact that I never ſaw a ſingle capital tree growing on theſe banks: all hedge trees are difficult to preſerve, and therefore muſt have been cut when young. Aſh in England growing from a level are generally worth in forty years from forty ſhillings to three pounds. And I know many trees of fifty to ſixty years growth that would ſell readily at from four to eight pounds, yet the price in Ireland is higher. Another practice which is common in that kingdom is pruning timber trees, and even oaks. I was petrified at ſeeing oaks of ten and fifteen feet high with all the ſide ſhoots cut off. There are treatiſes upon planting which recommend this practice as well as cutting down young trees to make the better *timber*. There are no follies which are not countenanced, and even preſcribed in ſome book or other, but unhappy is it for a kingdom when they are liſtened to. Burn your books, and attend to nature; come to England and view our oak, our aſh, and our beech all ſelf ſown, and never curſed with the exertions of art. Shew me ſuch trees from the hands of nurſeryman and pruners before you waſte your breath with ſhallow reaſoning to prove that the moſt common of the operations of nature muſt be aſſiſted by the axe or pruning hook.

One reaſon why both fences and trees in Ireland which have once been made are now neglected and in ruin, is owing to the firſt planting being all that is thought of; the hedges are ſuffered to grow for thirty or forty years without cutting; the conſequence of which is their being ragged, and open at bottom, and full of gaps whole perches long. But all fences ſhould be cut periodically, for the ſame reaſon that trees ought never to be touched, their puſhing out many ſhoots for every one that is taken off; this ſhould be repeated every fifteen years; a proper portion of the thorns ſhould be plaſhed down to form an impenetrable live hedge, and the reſt cut off, and made into faggots. But in the Iriſh way the fences yield no fuel at all. To permit a hedge to grow too long without cutting, not only ruins it for a fence, but ſpoils the trees that are planted with it.

Laſtly, let me obſerve, that the amazing neglect in not planting oſier grounds for making baſkets and ſmall hoops, is unpardonable throughout the kingdom, they no where thrive better; a ſmall one I planted in the county of Corke grew ſix feet the firſt year, yet at that port there is a conſiderable importation of them from Portugal.

SECTION XI.

Manures—Waſte Lands.

THE manure commonly uſed in Ireland is lime; inexhauſtible quarries of the fineſt lime-ſtone are found in moſt parts of that iſland, with either turf, or culm at a moderate price to burn it. To do the gentlemen of that country juſtice, they underſtand this branch of huſbandry very well, and practice it with uncommon ſpirit. Their kilns are the beſt I have any where ſeen, and great numbers are kept burning the whole year through, without a thought of ſtopping on account of the winter. Their draw kilns burn up to forty barrels a day; and what they call French kilns, which burn the ſtone without breaking, have been made even to five thouſand barrels in a kiln. Mr. Leſlie laying ten thouſand barrels on his land in one year, and Mr. Aldworth as much, are inſtances which I never heard equalled. The following table will ſhew the general practice.

	Barrels per acre.	*Price per barrel.*	
		s.	*d.*
Mr. M'Farlan,	160		7
Slaine,	120		7
Headfort,	80		
Packenham,			6
Mr. Marley,	160	1	0
Kilfaine,	80		
Mr. Kennedy,	40	2	6
Hampton,	125		7
Ld. Ch. Baron Forſter,	160		9
Market Hill,	30	1	6
Warrenſtown,	140	1	1
Lecale,	115		11
Mr. Leſlie,	160		
Newtown Limavady,	100	1	0
Caſtle Caldwell,			6
Inniſkilling,	80		8
Florence Court,	60		8
Farnham,	150		
Mr. Mahon,			5
Mr. Brown,			3
Mr. French,			4
Woodlawn,			4
Annſgrove,	190		8
Mr. Aldworth,	160		6

	Barrels per acre.	Price per Barrel.		
		s.	d.	f.
Lord Donneraile,	80		5	2
Mallow,	100	1	1	
Mr. Gordon,	50		7	2
Coolmore,	40		9	
Nedeen,		1	0	
Mucrus,	70		7	
Mr. Blennerhaſſet,	100		6	
Mr. Bateman,	50		6	
Tarbat,	40	1	0	
Lord Tyrone,	200	1	0	
Average,	100		9	

Theſe quantities are upon the whole conſiderable. The price ſhews the plenty of this manure in Ireland. To find any place where it can be burnt for three pence and four pence is truly wonderful, but can only be from the union of turf and limeſtone at the ſame place.

I no where heard of any land that had been over limed, or on which the repetition of it had proved ſo diſadvantageous as it has ſometimes been found in England *.

Limeſtone gravel is a manure peculiar to Ireland; and is moſt excellent. It is a blue gravel, mixed with ſtones as large as a man's fiſt, and ſometimes with a clay loam; but the whole maſs has a very ſtrong effervecence with acid. On uncultivated lands it has the ſame wonderful effect as lime, and on clay arable, a much greater; but it is beneficial to all ſoils. In the iſle of Angleſea, a country which very much reſembles Ireland, there is a gravel much like it, which has alſo ſome effervecence; but I never met with it in any other part of England.

Marle in Ireland is not ſo common as theſe manures. That which is ofteneſt found is white, and remarkably light; it lies generally under bogs. Shell marle is dredged up in the Shannon, and in the harbour of Waterford.

In the catalogue of manures, I wiſh I could add the composts formed in well littered farm yards, but there is not any part of huſbandry in the kingdom more neglected than this; indeed I have ſcarce any where ſeen the leaſt veſtige of ſuch a convenience as a yard ſurrounded with offices for the winter ſhelter, and feeding of cattle. All ſorts of animals range about the field in winter, by which means the quantity of dung raiſed is contemptible. To dwell upon a point of ſuch acknowledged importance is needleſs. Time it is to be hoped will introduce a better ſyſtem.

WASTE

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* *See a Letter from the late Earl of Holderneſs to me, inſerted in the ſecond Edition of the* Northern Tour.

WASTE LANDS.

Although the proportion of waſte territory is not, I apprehend, ſo great in Ireland as it is in England, certainly owing to the rights of commonage in the latter country which fortunately have no exiſtence in Ireland; yet are the tracts of deſart mountains and bogs very conſiderable. Upon theſe lands is to be practiſed the moſt profitable huſbandry in the King's dominions; for ſo I am perſuaded the improvement of mountain land to be. By that expreſſion is not to be underſtood only very high lands, all waſte in Ireland that are not bog they call *mountain*; ſo that you hear of land under that denomination where even a hillock is not to be ſeen. The largeſt tracts, however, are adjoining to real mountains, eſpecially where they ſlope off to a large extent gradually to the ſouth. Of this ſort Lord Kingſborough has a very extenſive and moſt unprofitable range. In examining it, with many other mountains, and in about five months experience of the beginning only of an improvement under my direction there, I had an opportunity of aſcertaining a few points which made me better acquainted with the practicability of thoſe improvements than if I had only paſſed as a traveller through the kingdom. By ſtating a few of the circumſtances of this attempt, others who have mountains under ſimilar circumſtances may judge of the propriety of undertaking their improvement. The land has a very gentle declivity from the Galty mountains towards the ſouth, and to a new road Lord Kingſborough made leading from Mitchelſtown towards Cahir, which road he very wiſely judged was the firſt ſtep to the improvement of the waſte parts of his eſtate as well as a great public benefit. The South ſide of this road limeſtone is found, and on the North ſide, the improvement was begun in a ſpot that included ſome tolerable good land, ſome exceeding rough and ſtoney, and a wet bottom where there was a bog two, three, and four feet deep; the land yielded no other profit than being a commonage to the adjoining farm, in which way it might pay the rent poſſibly of a ſhilling an acre: Twenty thouſand acres by eſtimation joined it in the ſame ſituation which did not yield the fourth of that rent. In June I built a lime kiln which burnt twenty barrels a day, and cut, led, and ſtacked turf enough to keep it burning a whole twelvemonth, ſketched the fences of four incloſures, making thirty-four acres, and finiſhed the firſt work of them, leaving the reſt, and planting till winter*. I cleared two incloſures of ſtones; pared and burnt them; burnt eight hundred barrels of lime, limed one incloſure, and ſowed one third with wheat, a third with rye, and the other with bere, as an experiment; the other field with turneps, which from the continual drought, failed. Two cabbins were built. And the whole expence in five months, including the price of all ploughing, and carriage, (the latter from the miſerable cars and *garrens* at a moſt extravagant rate) buying timber, ſtewards wages, &c. amounted to one hundred and fifty pounds. The moment the neighbours underſtood the works were at an end, ſome of them offered me ten ſhillings an acre for the land to take it as it was, which is juſt eleven per cent. for the money, but I could have got more. The following were the only data gained: lime burnt for fivepence a barrel. Paring with the graffan in ſtoney land 30s. to 40s. an acre, and done by the plough at eight ſhillings much better, burning and ſpreading the aſhes depends on weather, one piece coſt above twenty ſhillings an acre, the other not five, but on an average I ſhould calculate it at ten ſhillings. The whole operation may be very well done with the plough at twenty ſhillings. Clearing from ſtones and carting away, various; I found a very ſtoney piece could be cleared at twelve ſhillings an acre. A ſingle ditch ſeven feet broad, and from three to five deep, the bank nine feet high from the bottom of the ditch, coſt one ſhilling and ſixpence; but this expence would have leſſened when they were more accuſtomed to it: conſequently a double fence with a ſpace between left for planting, three ſhillings.

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* *Where fences muſt be done by the day and not the perch, which will generally be the caſe in the beginning of an improvement in a very wild country, from the labourers being totally ignorant of taking work by meaſure; all that is poſſible ſhould be executed in ſummer,*

My deſign was to purchaſe a flock of mountain ſheep in the following ſpring, and keep them through the ſummer in the mountains, but folding them every night in the improvement, in which work I could have inſtructed the people, and when once they had ſeen the benefit, I do not think the practice would ever have been loſt. To have provided plenty of turneps for their winter ſupport, and improved the breed by giving them ſome better tups, but to have done this gradually in proportion as their food improved. Turneps to be for ſome years the only crop, except ſmall pieces by way of trial. To have laid down the land to graſs after a proper courſe of turneps in the manner and with the ſeeds I practiſed in Hertfordſhire, which would have ſhewn what that operation is. There is not a complete meadow in the whole country. To have proportioned the ſheep to the turneps at the rate of from twenty to thirty an acre according to the goodneſs of the crop: there is a power in ſuch waſte tracts of keeping any number in ſummer; the common people keep them all the year round on the mountains.

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mer, eſpecially in ſo wet a climate as Ireland; and when no more is paid for a day in July than in December. Some of my banks fell with the Autumn rains, owing to two cauſes; firſt, the men, inſtead of knowing how to make a ditch were mountaineers, who ſcarcely knew the right end of a ſpade; and ſecondly, it proved the dryeſt ſeaſon that ever was known in Ireland.

The annual product of the improved land is in this ſyſtem very eaſily aſcertained. Suppoſe only twenty * ſheep per acre, and no more than fifteen lambs from them, worth two ſhillings and ſixpence each, it is thirty-ſeven ſhillings and ſixpence, and the twenty fleeces at one ſhilling make fifty-ſeven ſhillings and ſixpence: about three pound therefore may be reckoned the loweſt value of an acre of turneps at firſt; but as ſucceſſive crops on the ſame land improve greatly, they would winter more than twenty, and both lambs and wool be more valuable, ſo that from a variety of circumſtances I have attended to in that country, I am clear the common value of the turneps might be carried to four pounds, and in the courſe of a few years perhaps to five pounds an acre. And to ſtate the expence of ſuch an improvement completely finiſhed at ten pounds an acre, including every article whatever; three crops of turneps amply repay the whole, and the future produce or rent of the land, neat profit. This would be twenty ſhillings an acre; twenty-five ſhillings are commonly paid for much worſe land. The real fact of ſuch improvements is a landlord's accepting an eſtate gratis, or at leaſt paying nothing but trouble for it. Nearly ſuch concluſions muſt be drawn from lord Altamont's mountain works, of which an account is given in the minutes. I ſhould remark that the people I employed, though as ignorant as any in the kingdom, and had never ſeen a turnep hoe, hoed the turneps when I ſhewed them the manner, very readily, and though not ſkilfully, well enough to prove their docility would not be wanting; it was the ſame with the paring mattock, and the Norfolk turnep ſower. They very readily execute orders, and ſeem to give their inclination to it.

There are ſeveral reaſons which make theſe improvements more profitable and eaſy in Ireland than they are in England. There are no common rights to encounter, which are the curſe of our moors. Buildings, which in England form one of the heavieſt articles, are but a trifling expence; make the land good, and you will let it readily without any at all; or at leaſt with an allowance of a roof towards a cabbin; and laſtly, the proportionate value of improved land compared with that of unimproved is much higher than it is with us, owing to the want of capital, rendering all improvements ſo rare, and to the common people ſo difficult. Three hundred pounds a year ſteadily employed in ſuch an undertaking, would in a few years create an eſtate ſufficient for the greateſt undertakings: but ſucceſs depends on a regular unbroken exertion, a point I found very few perſons in Ireland thoroughly underſtood, owing to their not being accuſtomed to large flocks of ſheep regularly depending on turneps. At the ſame time that this work was carrying on, his lordſhip, by my advice, encouraged the pea-

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* *It is to be noted that ſtock ſheep are only baited, and that chiefly in bad weather. The winters in Ireland are much milder than in England.*

ſantry to take in ſmall parts of theſe mountains themſelves. The adjoining farms being out of leaſe, he had a power of doing what he pleaſed ; I marked a road, and aſſigned portions of the waſte on each ſide to ſuch as were willing to form the fences in the manner preſcribed, to cultivate and inhabit the land, allowing each a guinea towards his cabbin, and promiſing the beſt land rent free for three years, and the worſt for five ; the eagerneſs with which the poor people came into this ſcheme, convinced me that they wanted nothing but a little encouragement to enter with all their might and ſpirit into the great work of improvement. They truſted to my aſſurance enough to go to work upon the ditches, and actually made a conſiderable progreſs. In all undertakings of this ſort in Ireland it is the poor cottars, and the very little farmers, who are the beſt tools to employ, and the beſt tenants to let the land to ; but this circumſtance raiſes many enemies to the work ; the better ſort who have been uſed to tread upon and oppreſs, are ill pleaſed to ſee any importance or independancy given to them : and the whole race of jobbing gentlemen, whoſe converſation for ever takes the turn of ridiculing the poverty of the cottar tenants, will always be ready with an equal cargo of falſhood and ignorance to decry and depreciate any undertaking which is not to conduce to their own benefit : if a landlord does not ſteadily reſolve to laugh at all this traſh, he had better never think of improvements.

Trifling as they have been on the Iriſh mountains, yet are the bogs ſtill more neglected. The minutes of the journey ſhew that a few gentlemen have executed very meritorious works even in theſe, but as they, unfortunately for the public, do not live upon any of the very extenſive bogs, the inhabitants near the latter deny the application of their remarks. Bogs are of two ſorts, black and red. The black bog is generally very good, it is ſolid almoſt to the ſurface, yields many aſhes in burning, and generally admitted to be improveable though at a heavy expence. The red ſort has uſually a reddiſh ſubſtance five or ſix feet deep from the ſurface, which holds water like a ſpunge, yields no aſhes in burning, and is ſuppoſed to be utterly irreclaimable.

In the variety of theories which have been ſtarted to account for the formation of bogs, difficulties occur which are not eaſily ſolved : yet are there many circumſtances which aſſiſt in tracing the cauſe. Various ſorts of trees, ſome of them of a great ſize, are very generally found in them, and uſually at the bottom, oak, fir, and yew the moſt common ; the roots of theſe trees are faſt in the earth ; ſome of the trees ſeem broken off, others appear to be cut, but more with the marks of fire on them. Under ſome bogs of a conſiderable depth there are yet to be ſeen the furrows of land once ploughed. The black bog is a ſolid weighty maſs which cuts almoſt like butter, and upon examination appears to reſemble rotten wood. Under the red bogs there is always a ſtratum if not equally ſolid with the black bog, nearly ſo, and makes as good fuel. There is upon the black as well as the red ones a ſurface of that ſpungy vegetable maſs which is cleared away to get at the bog for fuel, but it is ſhallow on theſe. Sound trees are found equally in both ſorts. Both differ extremely from the bogs I have ſeen in England in the inequality of the ſurface; the Iriſh ones are rarely level but riſe into hills. I have ſeen one in Donnegal which is a perfect ſcenery of hill and dale. The ſpontaneous growth moſt common is heath; with ſome bog myrtle, ruſhes and a little ſedgy graſs. As far as I can judge by roads, laying gravel of any ſort, clay, earth, &c. improves the bog, and brings good graſs. The depth of them is various, they have been fathomed to that of fifty feet, and ſome are ſaid to be ſtill deeper.

From theſe circumſtances it appears, that a foreſt cut, burnt, or broken down, is probably the origin of a bog. In all countries where wood is ſo common as to be a weed, it is deſtroyed by burning, it is ſo around the Baltic, and in America at preſent. The native Iriſh might cut and burn their woods enough for the tree to fall, and in the interim between ſuch an operation, and ſucceſſive culture, wars and other inteſtine diviſions might prevent it in thoſe ſpots, which ſo neglected afterwards became bogs. Trees lying very thick on the ground would become an impediment to all ſtreams and currents, and gathering in their branches, whatever rubbiſh ſuch waters brought with them, form a maſs of a ſubſtance which time might putrefy, and give that acid quality to, which would preſerve ſome of the trunks though not the branches of the trees. The circumſtance of red bogs being black and ſolid at the bottom, would ſeem to indicate that a black bog has received leſs acceſſion from the growth and putrefaction of vegetables after the formation than the red ones, which from ſome circumſtances of ſoil or water might yield a more luxuriant ſurface vegetation, till it produced that maſs of ſpunge which is now found on the ſurface. That this ſuppoſition is quite ſatisfactory I cannot aſſert, but the effect appears to be at leaſt poſſible, and accounts for the diſtinction between the two kinds. That they receive their form and increaſe from a conſtant vegetation appear from their riſing into hills, if they did not vegetate the quantity of water they contain would keep them on a level. The places where the traces of ploughing are found, I ſhould ſuppoſe were once fields adjoining to the woods, and when the bog roſe to a certain height it flowed gradually over the ſurrounding land.

But the means of improving them is the moſt important conſideration at preſent. Various methods have been preſcribed, and ſome ſmall improvements have been effected by a few gentlemen, but at ſo large an expence that it is a queſtion how far their operations anſwered. Here, therefore, one muſt call in theory to our aid from a deficiency of practice. Fortunately for a bog improver, drains are cut at ſo ſmall an expence, in them, that that neceſſary work is done at a very moderate coſt. But in ſpungy ones it muſt be repeated annually, according to the ſubſtance of the bog, and no other work attended to but ſinking the drains lower and lower, by no means till you come to the bottom, (the neceſſity of which is a vulgar error) but till the ſpaces between them will bear an ox in boots. Then the ſurface ſhould be levelled and burnt, and I would adviſe nothing to be done for a year or two but rollers as heavy as might be, kept repeatedly going over it, in order to preſs and conſolidate the ſurface. Before any thing elſe was attempted I would ſee the effect of this; probably the draining and rolling would bring up a freſh ſurface of vegetables not ſeen before, in that caſe I ſhould have very few doubts of finiſhing the work with the feeding, treading, and fold of ſheep which would encourage the white clover and graſſes to vegetate ſtrongly; fortunately for any operation with ſheep they can be kept ſafely, as they never rot in a drained bog. A very ingenious friend of mine thinks the whole might be done with ſheep with little or no draining, but from viewing the bogs I am clear that is impoſſible. During the time of rolling and ſheep feeding, the drains I would have kept clean and open, the labour of which would regularly be leſs and leſs. When the ſurface was ſo hard as to bear cars, marle, clay, gravel, or earth, might be carried on according to diſtance, which with the ſheep feeding would convert it into good meadow. But as carting in a large improvement would probably be too expenſive; I ſhould think it worth while to try the experiment whether it would not be practicable to ſink a ſhaft through the bog into the gravel or earth beneath it, boarding or walling, and plaſtering with terraſs or cement, in order to be able to draw up the under ſtratum, as all the chalk in Hertfordſhire is raiſed, that is, wound up in buckets; chalk is ſo raiſed and wheeled on to the land for the price of eight-pence the load of twenty buſhels, and is found a cheap improvement at that price, yet the chalk drawers, as they call themſelves, earn two ſhillings and two and ſixpence each day. Whatever the means uſed, certain it is that no meadows are equal to thoſe gained by improving a bog; they are of a value which ſcarcely any other lands riſe to: in Ireland I ſhould ſuppoſe it would not fall ſhort of forty ſhillings an acre, and riſe in many caſes to three pounds.

SECTION XII.

Cattle—Wool—Winter Food.

THE cattle in Ireland are much better than the tillage; in the management of the arable ground the Iriſh are five centuries behind the beſt cultivated of the Engliſh counties, but the moiſture of the climate, and the richneſs of the ſoil, have reared, aſſiſted with importations from England, a breed of cattle and ſheep, though not equal to ours, yet not ſo many degrees below them as might be expected from other circumſtances. The following table will ſhew the prices and profit on fattening bullocks and cows.

Places.	FAT BULLOCKS AND COWS.											
	Price, Bull.			*Profit.*			*Price, Cow.*			*Profit.*		
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Gibbſtown,	10	0	0	4	0	0	5	10	0	1	15	0
Lord Bective,							4	2	6	1	17	6
Packenham,							4	0	0	2	0	0
Tullamore,							3	7	6	2	0	0
Shaen Caſtle,							4	10	0	1	16	0
Ballynakill,	5	10	0	2	5	0						
Mr. Butler,	5	0	0	3	0	0	3	5	0	2	0	0
Belle Iſle,							3	15	0	1	11	6
Longford,							4	0	0	1	15	0
Mercra,	4	10	0	2	10	0	3	10	0	1	10	0
Holymount,							2	16	0	1	10	0
Drumoland,							3	10	0	2	0	0
Clare,	6	0	0	4	0	0	3	10	0	2	0	0
Caſtle Oliver,	5	0	0	3	8	3						
Tipperary,				4	5	0						
Cullen,	6	0	0	3	10	0	4	10	0	2	0	0
Average,	6	0	0	3	7	6	3	16	0	1	16	6

The ſyſtem purſued in fatting theſe beaſts is explained fully in the minutes of the journey. I think the profit remarkably ſmall. The exportation of beef, and its prices, will be given under the article *Trade*, as it forms a principal branch of the commerce of Ireland.

Places.	SHEEP. Fleece.		SHEEP. Profit.	
	lb.	qrs.	s.	d.
Slaine,	4	2		
Tullamore,	6			
Shaen Caſtle,	4			
Mr. Vicars,	6	2		
Mr. Brown,			10	0
Kilfain,	5	3		
Proſpect,	5	3		
Mr. Pepper,	8			
Florence Court,	3			
Strokeſtown,	5		17	0
Ditto,			10	0
Elphin,	5		10	0
Mercra,	4			
Mr. Brown,	4			
Weſtport,	5			
Moniva,	4	2		
Drumoland,	5	3		
Annſgrove,	4			
Lord Donneraile	8			
Adair,	7			
Tipperary,	5	3	10	0
Mr. Moore,	7			
Furneſs,	5	3		
Gloſter,	5	3		
Johnſtown,	5	3		
Mr. Head,			10	0
Cullen,	5	3	9	
Mitchell'sTown	3			
Averages,	5		11	0
Averages of the Tour thro' the N. of England.	5		10	0
Do. E. of Engl.	5	2	11	8
Average of Engl.	5	1	10	10
Average of Irel.	5		11	0

From hence the remark I often made in Ireland is confirmed, that their ſheep are on an average better than thoſe in England; the weight of the fleece is nearly equal to it, and profit rather higher, notwithſtanding mutton is dearer in England; this is owing to the price of wool being ſo much higher in Ireland than it is with us. The following table will ſhew the price of it for fourteen years in both kingdoms.

Wool in the Fleece, *Ireland*.		*Per ſtone 16 lb.* s.	d.
In the year 1764	—	11	0
1765	—	10	0
1766	—	11	0
1767	—	13	0
1768	—	13	6
1769	—	13	6
1770	—	14	0
1771	—	14	0
1772*	—	0	0
1773*	—	0	0

Wool in the Fleece, *Lincolnſhire*.		*Tod reduced to ſtone of* 16 *lb.* s.	d.
In the year 1764	—	11	4
1765	—	11	4
1766	—	12	0
1767	—	10	8
1768	—	8	0
1769	—	8	0
1770	—	8	3
1771	—	8	0
1772	—	8	3
1773	—	8	4

* *Unſettled but very high.*

Wool in the Fleece, *Ireland*.		*Per ſtone* 16 *lb*. s.	d.
In the year 1774	—	14	0
1775	—	16	0
1776	—	16	6
1777 §	—	17	6
1778	—	0	0
1779	—	0	0
Average,	—	13	8

Wool in the Fleece, *Lincolnſhire*.		*Tod reduced to ſtone of* 16 *lb*. s.	d.
In the year 1774	—	9	0
1775	—	9	6
1776	—	10	0
1777	—	9	9
1778	—	8	0
1779 ‖	—	6	9
Average,	—	9	3

47 per cent higher in Ireland that in England.

From hence it appears, that wool has been amazingly higher in Ireland, which accounts for the ſuperiority in the profit of ſheep. There are ſeveral reaſons for their height of price, but the principal are a decreaſe in the quantity produced, and at the ſame time an encreaſe in the conſumption. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn, as I ſhall ſhew hereafter, has occaſioned the ploughing up great tracts of ſheep walk; and at the ſame time the poor people have improved in their cloathing very much: theſe reaſons are fully ſufficient to account for that riſe in the price of wool, which has brought it to be higher than the Engliſh rate. There is, however, another very powerful reaſon, which has had a conſtant operation, and which is the cheapneſs of ſpinning; in Ireland this is twopence halfpenny and threepence, but in England fivepence and ſixpence. Great quantities are therefore ſpun into yarn in Ireland, and in that ſtate exported to England, for the price of the labour is ſo low, that a yarn manufacturer can afford to give a much higher price for wool than an Engliſh one, and yet ſell the yarn itſelf, after the expence of freight is added, as cheap as Engliſh yarn. The quantities of yarn, &c. exported, will be ſeen hereafter.

Many gentlemen have made very ſpirited attempts in improving the cattle and ſheep in Ireland, ſo that the mixture of the Engliſh breed of cattle has ſpread all over the kingdom; Engliſh ſheep are alſo extending. The minutes of the journey ſhew that the ſize of the bullocks is much encreaſed in the laſt twenty years.

But profitable as ſheep are in Ireland, they are not near ſo as they might be, if turneps were properly attended to: and the reaſon why oxen and cows yield ſtill leſs is the ſame deficiency. The mildneſs of the climate enables the ſtock-maſter to do with but little winter food, and this natural advantage proves an artificial evil, for it prevents thoſe exertions, which the farmers in other countries are obliged to make, in order to ſupport their flocks and herds. Mild as the Iriſh climate is, the graziers in Tipperary, that is in the ſouth of the kingdom, find nothing more profitable than turneps, though hoeing them is quite unknown, and by means of that root, ſo very imperfectly managed, ſupply Dublin with mutton in the ſpring, to their very great emolument. But the want of winter food is more apparent in black cattle, which upon ſuch very rich land, ought to riſe to a ſize which is ſcarce ever met with in Ireland, the uſual weight being from four to eight hundred; but from four hundred and a half to five and ſix hundred weight, the common ſize on the rich grounds of Limerick; ſuch land in England is covered with herds that weigh from ten to fifteen hundred weight each; this vaſt difference is owing to their being reared the two firſt winters with ſuch a deficiency of food, that their growth is ſtinted, ſo that when they come upon the fine bullock land, they are of a ſize which can never be fattened to the weight of Engliſh oxen. The deficiency in turneps, &c. renders hay very valuable in Ireland, which occaſions its being given ſparingly to cattle; but if they had while young, as many turneps as they would eat in addition to their preſent quantity of hay, and were protected in warm yards againſt the wind and rain, they would riſe to a ſize unknown at preſent in that kingdom. Upon this and a variety of other accounts, there is ſcarcely any object in its agriculture of ſo much importance as the introduction of that plant under the right cultivation.

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§ *Communicated by Mr. Joſhua Pine in the woollen trade, Dublin.*

‖ *Communicated by Mr. James Oaks in the woollen trade, Bury, Suffolk.*

SECTION XIII.

Tythes—Church Lands.

OUR ſiſter kingdom labours under this heavy burden as well as her neighbours, to which is very much owing the uncultivated ſtate of ſo great a part of her territory. The following are the minutes of the journey:

Places.

Places.	*Wheat.*		*Barley.*		*Oats.*		*Bere.*		*Potatoes.*		*Mowing.*		*Sheep.*	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Cellbridge,	7	0			5	0	5	0			5	0		
Dolleſtown,	5	0			3	0	5	0			3	0		
Slaine,	7	0	5	0	3	6					3	6		
Packenham,	7	0	7	0	5	0	7	0			2	0	0	3
Tullamore,	5	0	3	0	3	0	5	0			5	0	0	0¼
Shaen Caſtle,	7	0	5	0	3	6	6	0			3	0		
Brownſhill,	5	0	3	0	2	6	4	0			3	0		
Kilfaine,	8	0	7	0	4	0	7	0			4	0		
Mount Kennedy,	10	0	4	0	4	0								
Hampton,	8	6	8	0	5	0					4	6		
Ardmagh,			5	0	3	0								
Lecale, 2s. 2d. an acre for the whole crop.														
Shaen Caſtle,					2	0								
Clonleigh,			7	0	5	0			5	0	5	0		
Strokeſtown,	8	0	8	0	3	0	8	0						
Mercra,	8	0	6	0	4	0					3	0		
Drumoland,	5	0	3	0	2	0			10	0			0	2½
Annſgrove,	8	0	6	0			6	0	6	0	2	0	0	3
Adair,	6	0	5	0	4	0			9	0	2	0	0	2
Ballycanvan,	5	6	5	6	5	6			5	6			0	6
Johnſtown,	6	0	3	0	3	0	6	0	6	0				
Derry,	5	0	5	0	2	6	5	0	5	0	2	0		
Cullen,	8	0	7	0	4	6	7	0	11	0	2	8		
Averages,	6	9	5	4	3	8	5	11	7	2	3	3	0	2¾

	Wheat.	*Barley.*	*Oats.*	*Hay.*
Average of the Tour through the North of England,	5 2	3 11	3 4	1 10
Eaſtern ditto, - -	4 8	4 0	2 8	
Average, - - -	4 11	3 11½	3 0	1 10
Ireland, per Engliſh acre,	4 2½	3 4	2 3½	2 0

This table does not contain any proof that tythes in Ireland are unreaſonably rated; but that there are abuſes in the modes of levying them is undoubted: the greateſt that I heard of were the notes and bonds taken in ſome parts of that kingdom by the proctors for the payment of tythes, which bear intereſt, and which are ſometimes continued for ſeveral years, principal and intereſt being conſolidated until the ſum becomes too great for the poor man to pay, when great extortions are complained of, and formed the grievance which ſeemed moſt to raiſe the reſentment of the rioters, called Whiteboys. The great power of the proteſtant gentlemen render their compoſitions very light, while the poor catholic is made in too many caſes to pay ſeverely for the deficiencies of his betters. This is a great abuſe, but not to be remedied till the whole kingdom is animated with a different ſpirit.

The houſe of commons ſome years ago paſſed a vote, declaring every lawyer an enemy to his country, who in any way whatever was concerned in any caſe of tythe for fat bullocks and cows; and without its becoming a law was ſo compleatly obeyed, that it has regulated the buſineſs ever ſince; it was certainly a reproach to that parliament, that potatoes and turf were not the objects; for if any thing called for ſo violent an exemption, it was certainly the potatoe garden and fuel of the poor cottar.

No objects in both the kingdoms can well be of greater importance than a fixed compoſition for tythe. It is a mode of payment ſo diſagreeable in every reſpect to the clergy, and ſo ruinous to the laity, that a general public improvement would follow ſuch a meaſure. In Ireland there can be no doubt but the recompence ſhould be land, were it for no other reaſon but having in every pariſh a glebe ſufficient for the ample and agreeable reſidence of a rector. Force by the moſt expreſs penalties by ſtatute law, the reſidence of the clergy, after which extend that moſt excellent law which enables any biſhop to expend, in a palace, offices, or domain wall, two years revenues of the ſee, with a power of charging, by his laſt will, his ſucceſſor with the payment of the whole of the ſum to whatever uſes he leaves it, who in like manner is enabled to charge his ſucceſſor with three fourths, and ſo on; this law ſhould be extended to parſonage houſes, with this aſſiſtance, that wherever the rector or vicar proved the expenditure of two years revenue in a houſe, he ſhould receive a permit from the grand jury, for expending half as much more for offices, walling, &c. and when in like manner he brought his certificate of ſo doing, the money to be paid him by the county treaſurer in like manner as the preſentment roads are done at preſent, not however to leave it at the option of the jury. A reſident clergy ſpending in the pariſh the whole of their receipts, would in all reſpects be ſo advantageous and deſirable, that it is fair the county ſhould aſſiſt in enabling them to do it in a liberal manner. The expence would be gradual, and never amount very high, if churches, when greatly wanted, were built at the ſame time. If the expence was for a time conſiderable, ſtill it would be laid out in a manner amply to repay it. Decent edifices riſing in all parts of the kingdom, would alone, in the great buſineſs of civilization, be advantageous; it would ornament the country, as well as humanize minds, accuſtomed to nothing better than cabbins of mud; and ſecuring one reſident gentleman of ſome learning and ideas in every pariſh of the kingdom, living on a property in which he had an intereſt for life, could ſcarcely fail of introducing improvements in agriculture and planting; the whole county would profit by ſuch circumſtances, and ought to aſſiſt in the expence. I muſt obſerve, however, that ſuch plans ſhould depend entirely on the clergy accepting a perpetual recompence in lieu of tythes; for as to a pnblic expence, to introduce reſident rectors, whoſe buſineſs, when fixed, would be an extenſion and ſeverity in that tax, and prove a premium on taking them in kind to the ruin of agriculture, common ſenſe would certainly dictate a very different expenditure of the public money. So burthenſome is this mode of payment, that where their reſidence is followed by tythes being paid in kind, the clergyman, who ought to be an object beloved and revered, lives really upon the ruin of all his pariſhioners, ſo that inſtead of giving public money to bring him into a pariſh, no application of thoſe funds would be more beneficial in ſuch a caſe, than to purchaſe his abſence. If ever ſuch plans came in agitation, it would certainly be right to eſtabliſh a proviſion for pariſh clerks, to teach the children of all religions to read and write.

The revenues of the clergy in Ireland, are very conſiderable. Here is a liſt of the biſhoprics with the annual value, which I have had corrected ſo often in the neighbourhood of each that I believe it will be found nearly exact.

	l.		l.
The Primacy per ann.	8,000	Clonfert,	2,400
Dublin,	5,000	Clogher,	4,000
Tuam,	4,000	Kilmore,	2,600
Caſhel,	4,000	Elphin,	3,700
Derry,	7,000	Killala,	2,900
Limerick,	3,500	Kildare,	2,600
Corke,	2,700	Raphoe,	2,600
Cloyne,	2,500	Meath,	3,400
Oſſory,	2,000	Kilaloo,	2,300
Waterford,	2,500	Leighlin and Ferns,	2,200
Down,	2,300		
Dromore,	2,000		73,400

This

This total does not, however, mark the extent or value of the land which yields it. I was informed in converſation that the lands of the primacy would, if lett as a private eſtate, be worth near one hundred thouſand a year. Thoſe of Derry half as much, and thoſe of Caſhel near thirty thouſand a year. Theſe circumſtances taken into the account will ſhew that ſeventy-four thouſand pounds a year include no inconſiderable portion of the kingdom. I have been alſo informed, but not on any certain authority, that theſe ſees have the patronage of an eccleſiaſtical revenue of above one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds a year more.

SECTION XIV.

Abſentees.

THERE are very few countries in the world that do not experience the diſadvantage of remitting a part of their rents to landlords who reſide elſewhere; and it muſt ever be ſo while there is any liberty left to mankind of living where they pleaſe. In Ireland the amount proportioned to the territory is greater probably than in moſt other inſtances; and not having a free trade with the kingdom in which ſuch abſentees ſpend their fortunes, it is cut off from that return which Scotland experiences for the loſs of her rents.

Some years ago Mr. Morris publiſhed a liſt of the Iriſh abſentees, and their rentals, but as every day makes conſiderable alterations, it is of courſe grown obſolete, this induced me to form a new one, which I got corrected by a variety of perſons living in the neighbourhood of many of their reſpective eſtates: in ſuch a detail, however, of private property, there muſt neceſſarily be many miſtakes.

	l.		l.
Lord Donnegal, —	31,000	Lord Abercorn, —	8,000
Lord Courtnay, —	30,000	Mr. Dutton, —	8,000
Duke of Devonſhire,	18,000	Mr. Barnard, —	8,000
Earl of Milton, —	18,000	London Society, —	8,000
Earl of Shelburne,	18,000	Lord Conyngham, —	8,000
Lady Shelburne, —	15,000	Lord Cahir, —	8,000
Lord Hertford, —	14,000	Earl of Antrim, —	8,000
Marquis of Rockingham, — —	14,000	Mr. Bagnall, —	7,000
		Mr. Longfield, —	7,000
Lord Barrymore,	10 000	Lord Kenmare, —	7,000
Lord Montrath,	10,000	Lord Nugent, —	7,000
Lord Beſborough,	10,000	Lord Kingſton, —	7,000
Lord Egremont, —	10,000	Lord Valentia, —	7,000
Lord Middleton,	10,000	Lord Grandiſſon, —	7,000
Lord Hilſborough,	10,000	Lord Clifford, —	6,000
Mr. Stacpoole, —	10.000	Mr. Sloane, —	6,000
Lord Darnley, —	9,000	Lord Egmont, —	6,000

Lord

	l.		l.
Lord Upper Oſſory, —	6,000	Mr. John Barry, —	3,000
Mr. Silver Oliver, —	6,000	Mr. Edwards, —	3,000
Mr. Dunbar, —	6,000	Mr. Freeman, —	3,000
Mr. Henry Obrien, —	6,000	Lord Newhaven, —	3,000
Mr. Mathew, —	6,000	Mr. Welſh, (Kerry)	3,000
Lord Irnham, —	6,000	Lord Palmerſtown,	2,500
Lord Sandwich, —	6,000	Lord Beaulieu, —	2,500
Lord Vane, —	6,000	Lord Verney, —	2,500
Lord Dartry, —	6,000	Mr. Bunbury, —	2,500
Lord Fane, —	5,000	Sir George Saville,	2,000
Lord Claremont, —	5,000	Mrs. Newman, —	2,000
Lord Carbury, —	5,000	Col. Shirley, —	2,000
Lord Clanrickard, —	5,000	Mr. Campbell, —	2,000
Lord Farnham, —	5,000	Mr. Minchin, —	2,000
Lord Dillon, —	5,000	Mr. Burton, —	2,000
Sir W. Rowley, —	4,000	Duke of Dorſet, —	2,000
Mr. Palmer, —	4,000	Lord Powis, —	2,000
Lord Clanbraſſil, —	4,000	Mr. Whitſhead, —	2,000
Lord Maſſareen, —	4,000	Sir Eyre Coote, —	2,000
Lord Corke, —	4,000	Mr. Upton, —	2,000
Lord Portſmouth, —	4,000	Mr. John Baker Holroyd,	2,000
Lord Aſhbrook, —	4,000	Sir N. Bayley, —	2,000
Lord Villiers, —	4,000	Duke of Chandois,	2,000
Lord Bellew, —	4,000	Mr. S. Campbell, —	2,000
Sir Laurence Dundaſs,	4,000	Mr. Aſhroby, —	2,000
Allen family, —	4,000	Mr. Damer, —	2,000
Mr. O'Callaghan, —	4,000	Mr. Whitehead, —	2,000
General Montagu, —	4,000	Mr. Welbore Ellis,	2,000
Mr. Fitzmaurice, —	4,000	Mr. Folliot, —	2,000
Mr. Needham, —	4,000	Mr. Donellan, —	2,000
Mr. Cook, —	4,000	Mrs. Wilſon, —	2,000
Mr. Anneſley, —	4,000	Mr. Forward, —	2,000
Lord Kerry, —	4,000	Lord Middleſex, —	2,000
Lord Fitzwilliam, —	4,000	Mr. Supple, —	2,000
Viſcount Fitzwilliam,	4 000	Mr. Nagles, —	2,000
Engliſh Corporation,	3,500	Lady Raneleigh, —	2,000
Lord Bingley, —	3,500	Mr. Addair, —	2,000
Lord Dacre, —	3,000	Lord Sefton, —	2,000
Mr. Murray of Broughton,	3,000	Lord Tyrawley, —	2,000
Lord Ludlow, —	3,000	Mr. Woodcock, —	2,000
Lord Weymouth, —	3 000	Sir John Millar, —	2,000
Lord Digby, —	3,000	Mr. Baldwyn, —	2,000
Lord Forteſcue, —	3,000	Dr. Moreton, —	1,800
Lord Derby, —	3,000	Dr. Delany, —	1,800
Lord Fingall, —	3,000	Sir William Yorke, —	1,700
Blundenheireſſes, —	3,000	Mr. Arthur Barry, —	1,600
Lady Charleville, —	3 000	Lord Dyſart, —	1,600
Mr. Warren, —	3,000	Lord Clive, —	1,600
Mr. St. George, —	3,000	Mr. Bridges, —	1,500

Mr.

	l.
Mr. Cavenagh, —	1,590
Mr. Cuperden, —	1,500
Lady Cunnigby, —	1,500
Mr. Anneſley, —	1,500
Mr. Hauren, —	1,500
Mr. Long, —	1,500
Mr. Oliver Tilſon, —	1,500
Mr. Plumtree, —	1,400
Mr. Pen, —	1,400
Mr. Rathcormuc, —	1,200
Mr. Worthington, —	1,200
Mr. Rice, —	1,200
Mr. Ponſonby, —	1,200
General Sandford, —	1,200
Mr. Baſil, —	1,200
Mr. Dodwell, —	1,200
Mr. Lock, —	1,200
Mr. Cramer, —	1,200
Mr. W. Long, —	1,200
Mr. Rowley, —	1,200
Miſs Mac Artney, —	1,200
Mr. Sabine, —	1,100
Mr. Carr, —	1,000
Mr. Howard, —	1,000
Sir F. and Lady Lum,	1,000
Lord Albemarle, —	1,000
Mr. Butler, —	1,000
Mr. J. Pleydell, —	1,000
Mrs. Clayton, —	1,000
Mr. Obins, —	1,000
Lord M'Cartney, —	1,000
Mr. Chicheſter, —	1,000
Mr. Shepherd, —	1,000
Sir P. Dennis, —	1,000
Lady Dean, —	1,000
Lord Liſburne, —	1,000
Mr. Ralph Smith, —	1,000
Mr. Ormſby, —	1,000
Lord Stanhope, —	1,000
Lord Tilney, —	1,000
Lord Vere, —	1,000
Mr. Hoar, —	1,000
Mrs. Grevill, —	1,000
Mr. Nappier, —	1,000
Mr. Echlin, —	800
Mr. Taaf, —	800
Mr. Alexander, —	800
Mr. Hamilton, —	800
Mr. Hamilton, (Longford)	800
Mr. William Barnard,	800
Sir P. Leiceſter —	800
Mr. Moreland, —	800
Mr. Cam, —	700
Mr. Jonathan Lovett,	700
Mr. Hull, —	700
Mr. Staunton, —	700
Mr. Richard Barry, —	700
Colonel Barrè, —	600
Mr. Aſhon, —	600
Lady St. Leger, —	600
Sir John Hort, —	500
Mr. Edmund Burke, —	500
Mr. Ambroſe, —	500
Total	732,200

This total, though not equal to what has been reported, is certainly an amazing drain upon a kingdom cut off from the re-action of a free trade, and ſuch an one as muſt have a very conſiderable effect in preventing the natural courſe of its proſperity. It is not the ſimple amount of the rental being remitted into another country, but the damp on all ſorts of improvements, and the total want of countenance and encouragement which the lower tenantry labour under. The landlord at ſuch a great diſtance is out of the way of all complaints, or which is the ſame thing, of examining into, or remedying evils; miſeries of which he can ſee nothing, and probably hear as little of, can make no impreſſion. All that is required of the agent is to be punctual in his remittances, and as to the people who pay him, they are too often welcome to go to the devil, provided their rents could be paid from his territories. This is the general picture. God forbid it ſhould be univerſally true! there are abſentees who expend large ſums upon their eſtates in Ireland; the earl of Shelburne has made great exertions for the introduction of Engliſh agriculture. Mr. Fitzmaurice has taken every means to eſtabliſh a manufacture. The bridge at Liſmore is an inſtance of liberal magnificence in the duke of Devonſhire. The church and other buildings at Belfaſt do honour to lord Donnegall. The church and town of Hilſborough, are ſtriking monuments of what that nobleman performs. Lord Conyngham's expenditure in his abſence in building and planting merits the higheſt praiſe, nor are many other inſtances wanting, equally to the advantage of the kingdom, and the honour of the individuals.

It will not be improper here to add, that the amount of the penſion liſt of Ireland, the 29th of September, 1779, amounted to 84,591 l. per annum; probably therefore abſentees, penſions, offices, and intereſt of money, amount to above A MILLION!

SECTION XV.

Population.

IT is very aſtoniſhing that this ſubject ſhould be ſo little underſtood in moſt countries; even in England, which has given birth to ſo many treatiſes on the ſtate, cauſes and conſequences of it, ſo little is known, that thoſe who have the beſt means of information, confeſs their ignorance in the variety of their opinions. Thoſe political principles which ſhould long, ere this time, have been fixed and acknowledged, are diſputed; erroneous theories ſtarted, and even the evidence of facts denied. But theſe miſchievous errors uſually proceed from the rage of condemnation, and the croaking jaundiced ſpirit, which determines to deduce public ruin from ſomething; if not from a king, a miniſter, a war, a debt, or a peſtilence, from depopulation. In ſhort, if it was not to be attributed to any thing, many a calculator would be in bedlam with diſappointment. We have ſeen theſe abſurdities carried to ſuch a length as to ſee grave treatiſes publiſhed, and with reſpectable names to them, which have declared the depopulation of England itſelf to take place even in the moſt productive period of her induſtry and her wealth. This is not ſurpriſing, for there are no follies too ridiculous for wiſe men ſometimes to patronize, but the amazing circumſtance is that ſuch tracts are believed, and that harmleſs politicians ſigh in the very hey day of propagation, leſt another age ſhould ſee a fertile land without people to eat the fruits of it. Let population alone, and there is no fear of its taking care of itſelf, but when ſuch fooleries are made a pretence of recommending laws for the regulation of landed property, which has been the caſe, ſuch ſpeculations ſhould be treated with contempt and deteſtation; while merely ſpeculative, they are perfectly harmleſs, but let them become active in parliament, and common ſenſe ſhould exert her power to kick the abſurdity out of doors. To do juſtice to the Iriſh, I found none of this folly in that kingdom: many a violent oppoſer of government is to be found in that country, ready enough to confeſs that population increaſes greatly; the general tenour of the information in the minutes declare the ſame thing.

There are ſeveral circumſtances in Ireland extremely favourable to population, to which muſt be attributed that country being ſo much more populous than the ſtate of manufacturing induſtry would ſeem to imply. There are five cauſes, which may be particularized among others of leſs conſequence. Firſt, There being no poor laws. Second, the habitations. Third, The generality of marriage. Fourth, Children not being burthenſome. Fifth, Potatoes the food.

The laws of ſettlement in England, which confine the poor people to what is called their legal ſettlements, one would think framed with no other view than to be a check upon the national induſtry, it was, however, a branch of, and aroſe from thoſe monuments of barbarity and miſchief, our poor rates, for when once the poor were made, what they ought never to be conſidered a burthen, it was incumbent on every pariſh to leſſen as much as poſſible their numbers; theſe laws were therefore framed in the very ſpirit of depopulation, and moſt certainly have for near two centuries proved a bar to the kingdom's becoming as populous as it would otherwiſe have done. Fortunately for Ireland, it has hitherto kept free from theſe evils, and from thence reſults a great degree of her preſent population. Whole families in that country will move from one place to another with freedom, fixing according to the demand for their labour, and the encouragement they receive to ſettle. The liberty of doing this is certainly a premium on their induſtry, and conſequently to their increaſe.

The cabbins of the poor Iriſh being ſuch apparently miſerable habitations, is another very evident encouragement to population. In England, where the poor are in many reſpects in ſuch a ſuperior ſtate, a couple will not marry unleſs they can get a houſe, to build which, take the kingdom through, will coſt from twenty-five to ſixty pounds; half the life, and all the vigour and youth of a man and woman are paſſed, before they can ſave ſuch a ſum; and when they have got it, ſo burthenſome are poor to a pariſh, that it is twenty to one if they get permiſſion to erect their cottage. But in Ireland the cabbin is not an object of a moment's conſideration; to poſſeſs a cow and a pig is an earlier aim; the cabbin begins with a hovel, that is erected with two days labour, and the young couple paſs not their youth in celibacy for want of a neſt to produce their young in. If it comes to a matter of calculation, it will then be but as four pounds to thirty.

Marriage is certainly more general in Ireland than in England: I ſcarce ever found an unmarried farmer or cottar, but it is ſeen more in other claſſes, which with us do not marry at all; ſuch as ſervants; the generality of footmen and maids, in gentlemen's families, are married, a circumſtance we very rarely ſee in England.

Another point of importance is their children not being burthenſome. In all the enquiries I made into the ſtate of the poor, I found their happineſs and eaſe generally relative to the number of their children, and nothing conſidered as ſuch a misfortune as having none: whenever this is the fact, or the general idea, it muſt neceſſarily have a conſiderable effect in promoting early marriages, and conſequently population.

The food of the people being potatoes is a point not of leſs importance: for when the common food of the poor is ſo dear as to be an object of attentive œconomy, the children will want that plenty which is eſſential to rearing them; the article of milk, ſo general in the Iriſh cabbins, is a matter of the firſt conſequence in rearing infants. The Iriſh poor in the catholic parts of that country are ſubſiſted entirely upon land, whereas the poor in England have ſo little to do with it, that they ſubſiſt almoſt entirely from ſhops, by a purchaſe of their neceſſaries; in the former caſe it muſt be a matter of prodigious conſequence, that the product ſhould be yielded by as ſmall a ſpace of land as poſſible; this is the caſe with potatoes more than with any other crop whatever.

As to the number of people in Ireland I do not pretend to compute them, becauſe there are no ſatisfactory data whereon to found any computation. I have ſeen ſeveral formed on the hearth tax, but all computations by taxes muſt be erroneous, they may be below, but they cannot be above the truth. This is the caſe of calculating the number in England from the houſe and window tax. In Ireland it is ſtill more ſo, from the greater careleſſneſs and abuſes in collecting taxes. There is, however, another reaſon, the exemptions from the hearth-money, which in the words of the act are as follow: "Thoſe "who live upon alms and are not able to get their livelihood "by work, and widows, who ſhall procure a certificate of "two juſtices of the peace in writing yearly, that the houſe "which they inhabit is not of greater value than eight ſhillings by the year, and that they do not occupy lands of the "value of eight ſhillings by the year, and that they have not "goods or chattles to the value of four pounds *." It muſt be very manifeſt from hence, that this tax can be no rule whereby to judge of the population of the kingdom. Captain South's account is drawn from this ſource in the laſt century, which made the people 1,034,102 in the year 1695 †; the

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* *A Treatiſe of the Exchequer and Revenue of Ireland. By* G. E. Howard, *Eſq; Vol.* 1. *p.* 90.

† *Abridgment of Phil. Tranſ. Vol.* iii. *p.* 665.

number was computed by Sir W. Petty, in the year 1657 to 850,000; in 1688 at 1,200,000; and in 1767 the houſes taxed were 424,046. If the number of houſes in a kingdom were known, we ſhould be very far from knowing that of the people, for the computation of four or five per houſe, drawn from only a thouſandth part of the total, and perhaps deduced from that of a family rather than a houſe, can never ſpeak the real fact. I cannot conclude this ſubject without earneſtly recommending to the legiſlature of Ireland, to order an actual enumeration of the whole people, for which purpoſe I ſhould apprehend a vote of the houſe of commons would be ſufficient. Such a meaſure would be attended with a variety of beneficial effects, would prevent the riſe of thoſe errors which have been miſchievous in England, and would place the great importance of Ireland to the Britiſh empire, in that truly conſpicuous light in which it ought ever to be viewed, and in which it could not fail to be conſidered, while we have theoriſts, who inſiſt that the people of England do not amount to five millions.

The common idea is, that there are ſomething under three millions in Ireland.

SECTION XVI.

Public Works—Dublin Society.

ABOUT twenty years ago Ireland inſtead of being burthened with a national debt, had at the end of every ſeſſions of parliament from fifty to ſixty thouſand pounds, ſurplus revenue in the Exchequer, at the diſpoſition of parliament: this money was voted for public works. The members of the the houſe of commons, at the concluſion of the ſeſſions, met for the purpoſe of voting the uſes to which this money ſhould be applied; the greater part of it was among themſelves, their friends, or dependants; and though ſome work, of apparent uſe to the public at large, was always the plea, yet under that ſanction, there were a great number of very ſcandalous private jobs, which by degrees brought ſuch a diſcredit on this mode of applying public money, that the concluſion of it, from the increaſe of the real expences of the public, was not much regretted. It muſt, however, be acknowledged, that during this period, there were ſome excellent works of acknowledged utility executed, ſuch as harbours, piers, churches, ſchools, bridges, &c. built and executed by ſome gentlemen, if not with œconomy, at leaſt without any diſhonourable miſapplication; and as the whole was ſpent within the kingdom, it certainly was far from being any great national evil.

But of all public works, none have been ſo much favoured as inland navigations; a navigation board was eſtabliſhed many years ago for directing the expenditure of the ſums, granted by parliament for thoſe purpoſes, and even regular funds fixed for their ſupport. Under the adminiſtration of this board, which conſiſts of many of the moſt conſiderable perſons in the kingdom, very great attempts have been made, but I am ſorry to obſerve, very little completed. In order to examine this matter the more regularly, it will be proper to lay before the reader the ſums which have, from time to time, been granted for theſe objects.

An account of money, granted for public works by parliament, or the navigation board, from 1753 to 1767, incluſive*.

	l.
Newry river, - -	9,000
Drumglaſs colliery and navigation, - -	112,218
Dromreagh, - -	3,000
Lagan River, - -	40,304
Shannon River, - -	31,500
Grand Canal, - -	73,646
Blackwater River, -	11,000
River Lee, - - -	2,000
River Barrow, - -	10,500
River Sure & Waterford,	4,500
River Nore, - - -	25,250
River Boyne, - -	36,998
Pier at Skerries, - -	3,500
Pier at Envir, - -	1,870
Pier at Dunleary, -	18,500
Pier at Balbriggen, -	5,252
Pier at Bangor, - -	500
Pier at Killyleagh, -	1,200
Pier at Sligo, - - -	1,300
Antrim River, - - -	1,359
Ballaſt-office Wall, -	43,000
Widening Dublin ſtreets	41,986
Trinity College, -	31,000
Baal's Bridge Limerick quays, - - -	7,773
Cork channel harbour,	6,500
Cork Workhouſe, -	1,500
Derry Quay, - - -	2,900
Shandon Street, Corke,	1,500
Wicklow harbour, -	6,850
St. Patrick's Hoſpital,	6,000
Public Records, - -	5,000
Aquæduct Dungarvon,	1,300
Soldiers childrens hoſp.	7,000
Lying-in hoſpital, -	19,300
Mercer's hoſpital, -	500
Shannon bridge, -	2,000
Kilkenny ditto, - -	9,130
Corke bridges, - -	4,000
Kildare bridges, - -	600
St. Mark's church, -	2,000
St. Thomas's church,	5,440
St. Catherine's church,	3,990
St. John's church, -	2,000
Building churches, -	12,000
Athlone church, -	476
Caſhel church, - -	800
Wexford church,	
Quay at Dingle, - -	1,000
Minſterkenry collieries,	2,000
Marine nurſery, - -	1,000
Road round Dublin -	1,500
Dundalk, - - - - -	2,000
Whale-fiſhery, - -	1,000
Drydock, - - -	2,000
Mills at Naul, - -	3,498
Balty-caſtle, - - -	3,000
Lord Longford, - -	3,000
	717,944
Or per annum, -	47,863

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* *Commons Journal*, *Vol.* xiv. *p.* 485.

This period of fifteen years, I believe was that of the ſurplus of the revenue, during which the objects were as various as the inclinations of thoſe individuals who had any intereſt in parliament. It appears from the liſt, that the article of navigations ſwallows up the greateſt proportion of it.

Sums paid out of the revenues at large for certain public works, purſuant to the ſeveral bills of ſupply, from 1703 to 1771, incluſive.

Navigations, collieries, docks, &c. — —	379,388
To build churches, — — — —	17,706
Parliament houſe, — — — —	16,270
Dublin workhouſe, ſouth wall paſſages, new road and marſhalſea, — — — — —	140,372
Hoſpitals, — — — — —	44,251
Trinity college, — — — — —	45,000

Alſo, for the following purpoſes during the ſame period.

Rewards and bounties to manufacturers, —	29,829
Linen manufacture — — —	180,546
Cambrick ditto, — — —	4,000
Whale fiſhery, — — — —	1,500
Incorporated ſociety, — — —	96,000
Dublin ſociety, — — — —	64,000
	£1,018,862

It is to be noted however, that this account includes the diſburſements neither of the navigation, nor the linen board, for it is upon record, that the grand canal alone has coſt above three hundred thouſands pounds, by ſome accounts half a million.

Granted by the navigation board only, from 1768, to 1771.

	1768.	1769.	1770.	1771.	Total.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Newry canal,	2,216	130		88	2,434
Drumglaſs navigation,	1,971	244	2,151	1,200	5,566
Barrow navigation,			3,000	100	3,100
Shannon navigation,	4,162	162	3,336		7,660
Grand canal,	550	1,280	755	2,000	4,585
Boyne navigation,	2,143	2,860	2,000	2,504	9,507
Fergus navigation,	500		350		850
	11,542	4,676	11,592	5,892	33,702

Incomplete as theſe data are, we find from them, that great ſums of money have been granted for inland navigations, and are to this day given for the ſame purpoſe; let us therefore enquire how this money has been expended, and what has been the effect of it.

I made ſome enquiries, and travelled many miles to view ſome of the navigations, and the only one which appeared to me really completed, is the canal from the town of Newry to the ſea, on which I ſaw a brig of eighty or one hundred tons burthen. The ſame canal is extended farther than that town, but ſtops ſhort of the great object for which it was begun and made, viz. the Drumglaſs and Dungannon collieries; this may therefore be claſſed as incomplete relative to the object, but as Newry is a place of conſiderable trade, finiſhing it ſo far has merit. The great deſign was to furniſh Dublin with Iriſh coals, which was probably feaſible, for the ſeams of coals in thoſe collieries are aſſerted to be of ſuch a thickneſs, and goodneſs, as proved them more than equal to the conſumption of half a dozen ſuch cities as Dublin; but two great difficulties were to be overcome: firſt, to make the navigation ſo, that all land carriage might be ſaved, which was properly a public work; and ſecondly, to work the collieries, which was properly private buſineſs, but from the utter deficiency of capital in the hands of the individuals concerned, could never have been done without public aſſiſtance. To get over theſe difficulties, parliament went very eagerly into the buſineſs; they granted ſo liberally to the canal, that I think it has been finiſhed to within two or three miles of the collieries; at the ſame time a private company was formed for working the mines, to whom conſiderable grants were made to enable them to proceed. The property in the works changed hands ſeveral times; among others, the late archbiſhop of Tuam (Ryder) was deeply concerned in them, entering with great ſpirit into the deſign; but what with the impoſitions of the people employed; the loſs of ſome that were able and honeſt; the ignorance of others; and the jobbing ſpirit of ſome proprietors, parliament, after granting enormous ſums, both to the canal and collieries, had the mortification, inſtead of ſeeing coals come to Dublin, nothing but gold ſent from Dublin, to do that which fate ſeemed determined ſhould never be done, and ſo in deſpair abandoned the deſign to the navigation board, to ſee if their leſſer exertions would effect what the mightier ones had failed in. A Mr. Dularte, an Italian engineer, and very ingenious architect, has had for a few years the ſuperintendance of the works, but the temper of the nation has been ſo ſoured by diſappointments, that he has not the ſupport which he thinks neceſſary to do any thing effectual.

The following Table of the Import of Coal to Ireland, will ſhew the Importance of the Object.

	Tons.		*Tons.*
In the year 1764	161,970	In the year 1771	182,973
1765	185,927	1772	211,438
1766	186,612	1773	186,057
1767	172,276	1774	189,237
1768	185,554	1775	203,403
1769	171,323	1776	217,938
1770	197,135	1777	240,893
Average of 7 years	180,113	Average of 7 years	204,566

From this table it appears, that not only the quantity itſelf is great, but that it is a very riſing import, owing to the increaſe of Dublin, which has aroſe with the increaſing proſperity of the kingdom.

The little effect of all attempts to ſupply Dublin with Iriſh coals will be ſeen by the following table of the bounties paid for that purpoſe.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
In the year 1761	107	15	6	In the year 1770	169	11	4
1762	220	3	10	1771	105	4	10
1763	125	14	9	1772	113	11	0
1764	218	19	3	1773	209	11	8
1765	135	13	3	1774	204	7	2
1766	81	13	0	1775	213	14	4
1767	75	4	0	1776	86	0	0
1768	150	18	4	1777	88	0	0
1769	164	15	4				

Before I entirely diſmiſs this undertaking, I cannot but remark, that nothing can more clearly prove the amazing want of capital in Ireland than the preſent ſtate of theſe works. The navigation is complete except two or three miles; I will venture to aſſert, that parliament would grant the money for finiſhing it without heſitation, provided men of undoubted ſubſtance engaged for working the collieries at their own expence: we may therefore aſſert, there is water carriage from ſome of the fineſt ſeams of coal in the world, and at a very ſlight depth, directly into the heart of the ſecond market in the Britiſh dominions, with the advantage of a parliamentary bounty per chaldron on their import into Dublin. Yet, with all theſe advantages, nobody has capital enough to undertake the work. This fact ſeems to call alſo for another obſervation. I remember in the Engliſh Houſe of Commons, in the ſeſſion 1777-8, when the friends of the Iriſh trade bills urged, that the want of capital in Ireland was ſuch that ſhe could never rival the manufactures of Great Britain: it was replied, that Engliſh capitals would go over to do it for them;—but what I have juſt recited, proves that this remark is perfectly unfounded. If capitals were ſo readily moved from one country to another, the Drumglaſs collieries would have attracted them, eſpecially as an intereſt for ever is to be purchaſed in them; but the fact is, that removeable capitals are in the hands of men who have been educated, and perhaps have made them *locally* in ſome trade or undertaking which they will not venture to remove. Prejudice and habit govern mankind as much even as their intereſt, ſo that no apprehenſion can be ſo little founded as that of a country loſing the capital ſhe has made, by tranſferring it into another for greater ſeeming advantages in trade. But this point I ſhall have occaſion hereafter to dwell more particularly on.

The grand canal, as it has been ridiculouſly termed, was another inland navigation which has coſt the public ſtill greater ſums. The deſign, as the maps of Ireland ſhew, was to form a communication by water between Dublin and the Shannon by this cut, moſt of the way through the immenſe bog of Allen. The former plan of bringing coals to Dublin was a very wiſe one, but this of the grand canal had ſcarcely any object that ſeemed to call for ſuch an exertion. If the country is examined, through which the intended canal was to paſs, and alſo that through which the Shannon runs, it will be found, conſidering its extent, to be the leaſt productive for the Dublin market, perhaps of the whole kingdom. Examine Leitrim, Roſcommon, Longford, Galway, Clare, Limerick, and thoſe parts of Weſt Meath and Kings, which the line of the canal and Shannon lead through, there are ſcarcely any commodities in them for Dublin. Nay, the preſent bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, proves to a demonſtration, that the quantity of corn raiſed in all theſe counties for that market is contemptible: What other products are there? Raw wool takes another direction, it goes at preſent from Roſcommon to Corke. Manufactures in that line are very inſignificant; there are ſome in Galway, but the ports of Limerick and Galway are perfectly ſufficient for the ſmall exportation of them. There remains nothing but turf; and who at Dublin would burn that while Whitehaven coals are at the preſent price?

Moſt of the inland navigations in England have been executed with private funds; the intereſt paid by the tolls—one ſtrong reaſon for this mode, is the prevention of unneceſſary and idle ſchemes; the manufactures muſt be wrought, or the products raiſed, and feel the clog of an expenſive carriage before private perſons will ſubſcribe their money towards a cheaper conveyance; in which caſe, the very application to parliament is generally proof ſufficient that a canal ought to be cut. Having ſomething to carry before you, ſeek the means of carriage. I will venture to ſay, that if the grand canal was entirely complete, the navigation of it, including whatever the country towns took from Dublin, would prove of ſuch a beggarly account, that it would then remain a greater monument of folly if poſſible, than at preſent. Some gentlemen I have talked with on this ſubject, have replied *it is a job*; *'twas meant as a job*; *you are not to conſider it as a canal of trade but as a canal for public money*; but even this, though advanced in Ireland, is not upon principle. I anſwer that ſomething has been done, fourteen miles with innumerable locks, quays, bridges, &c. are abſolutely finiſhed, though only for the benefit of eels and ſkating: Why throw this money away? Half what theſe fourteen miles have coſt would have finiſhed the Newry canal, and perfected the Dungannon collieries. Admit your argument of the job; I feel its weight; I ſee its force; but that does not account for the ſums actually expended. Might not the ſame perſons have plundered the public to the ſame amount, in executing ſome work of real utility; from which ſomething elſe might have reſulted than diſgrace and ignominy to the nation?

As to the other navigations, there is in general this objection to be made to them all, however neceſſary they might be, they are uſeleſs for want of being completed; three-fourths are only begun. The gentlemen in the neighbourhood of them have had intereſt enough in the navigation board to get a part only voted, and from the variety of undertakings going on at the ſame time, and all for the ſame reaſon incomplete, the public utility has been more trifling from all, than from a ſingle one finiſhed. Sorry I am to ſay, that a hiſtory of public works in Ireland would be a hiſtory of jobs, which has and will prove of much worſe conſequence, than may be at firſt apparent: it has given a conſiderable check to permitting grants of money. Adminiſtration ſeeing the uſes to which it has been applied, have viewed theſe miſapplications, as they term them, of the public money with a very jealous eye. They have curtailed much: until another very queſtionable meaſure, the bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin demanded ſo much as to leave nothing for jobs of another ſort; that meaſure may be repealed, and the money applied to it will be at the diſpoſal of parliament, either for the common purpoſe of government, or applicable to ſome national improvement of a more deciſive nature; the latter may, after ſo many inſtances, be rejected for fear of jobs: how melancholy a conſideration is it, that in a kingdom which from various cauſes had been ſo fortunate as to ſee a great portion of public treaſure annually voted for public purpoſes, ſo abominably miſapplied, and pocketed by individuals, as to bring a ridicule and reproach upon the very idea of ſuch grants. There is ſuch a want of public ſpirit, of candour and of care for the intereſts of poſterity in ſuch a conduct, that it cannot be branded with an expreſſion too harſh, or a condemnation too pointed: nor leſs deſerving of ſeverity is it, if flowing from political and ſecret motives of burthening the *public* revenues to make *private* factions the more important.

Great honour is due to Ireland for having given birth to the DUBLIN SOCIETY, which has the undiſputed merit of being the father of all the ſimilar ſocieties now exiſting in Europe. It was eſtabliſhed in 1731, and owed its origin to one of the moſt patriotic individuals which any country has produced, DR. SAMUEL MADAN. For ſome years it was ſupported only by the voluntary ſubſcriptions of the members, forming a fund much under a thouſand pounds a year; yet was there ſuch a liberality of ſentiment in their conduct, and ſo pure a love of the public intereſt apparent in all their tranſactions, as enabled them with that ſmall fund to effect much greater things than they have done in later times ſince parliament has granted them regularly ten thouſand pounds a ſeſſions. A well written hiſtory of their tranſactions would be a work extremely uſeful to Ireland; for it would explain much better than any reaſoning could do, the proper objects for the patronage both of the ſociety and parliament. I ſhall confine myſelf to a few general obſervations. It was inſtituted, as their charter expreſſes, for the improvement of agriculture, and for many years that material object poſſeſſed by far the greateſt part of their attention; but when their funds by the aid of parliament grew more conſiderable, they deviated ſo far into manufactures, (in which branch they have been continually increaſing their efforts,) that at preſent agriculture ſeems to be but a ſecondary object with them. During the life time of that ingenious but unfortunate man, *Mr. John Wynn Baker*, his ſupport drew ſo many friends of agriculture to their meetings, that the premiums in its favour were very numerous; ſince his death, the nobility and gentry not having the ſame inducement to attend the tranſactions of the ſociety, they were chiefly directed by ſome gentlemen of Dublin, who underſtand fabrics much better than lands, and being more intereſted in them, they are attended to, perhaps, in too excluſive a manner. It would be tedious to enter into an examination of many of their meaſures, there are ſome, however, which demand a few remarks.

In order to encourage the manufacture of Iriſh woollen cloths, and Iriſh ſilks, the ſociety have two warehouſes *, in one of which ſilk is ſold on their account, wholeſale and retail, and in the other cloth; both are ſent to them by the weaver, whoſe name is written on the piece, and the price per yard on it: nothing but ready money is taken; the ſtock of ſilks generally amounts to the value of twelve or thirteen thouſand pounds in hand; and of woollens to ten or eleven thouſand more; and the expences in rent and ſalaries of theſe warehouſes

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* *The woollen warehouſe was opened May* 29, 1773; *that for ſilk Feb.* 18, 1765.

houſes amount to five hundred pounds a year each. Call the ſtock twenty-five thouſand pounds at ſix per cent. the total expence of this meaſure is juſt two thouſand five hundred pounds a year; or four times over the whole revenue of the ſociety for the encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce at London. I have examined their ſales in the weekly returns publiſhed, and find that from June 23, 1777, to February 7, 1778, their average weekly receipt was

			l.
	Silk	——	150
	Wool	——	339
Or per annum	Silk	——	7,800
	Wool	——	17,628

as the ſociety give a premium of 3l. per cent. on all *the Iriſh wrought ſilk bought in the kingdom by wholeſale for the purpoſe of retailing, that is above four ſhillings a yard*, it will help us to form an idea of the ſilk manufacture. From the firſt of June 1776, to the firſt of June 1777, the amount was 34,023l. 8s. 2d. including Corke, Limerick, Belfaſt, &c. and they paid ſix hundred and fifty pounds premium on it, from hence we find that their own ſilk ſales muſt be a large proportion of the wholeſale in Dublin. This has been the greateſt exertion of the Dublin Society of late years.

The intention of the meaſure is evidently to take the weavers, both of ſilk and wool, out of the hands of mercers and drapers, and let their manufactures come to market without any intermediate profit on them. There is one effect certain to reſult from this, which is taking a great part of the ready money cuſtom from the draper and mercer, which being the moſt beneficial part of their trade, is to all intents and purpoſes laying a heavy tax on them: now upon every principle of common ſenſe as well as commerce, it will appear a ſtrange mode of encouraging a manufacture to lay taxes upon the maſter manufacturers. But all taxes laid upon a tradeſman in conſequence of his trade, muſt be drawn back in the ſale of his commodities, and this tax muſt be ſo as well as others; whatever he does ſell muſt be ſo much the dearer, or he can carry on no trade at all; here therefore is a freſh tax, that of enhancing the prices paid by all who do not buy with ready money, a very great majority of the whole: the dearer a commodity is the leſs is conſumed of it, ſo the conſumption on credit is undoubtedly leſſened, in order that thoſe who have ready money in their hands may be ſerved ſomething the cheaper: here is a manifeſt and ſelf evident miſchief, in order to attain a very doubtful and queſtionable benefit.

Is there under the ſun, an inſtance of a manufacture made to flouriſh by ſuch meaſures? Maſter manufacturers with that vigour, attention, ſkill and invention, which are the reſult of a profitable buſineſs, are in all parts of the world, the very ſoul of proſperous fabrics. It is their profit which animates them to thoſe ſpirited exertions, upon which the advance of manufactures depends. If the Dublin ſociety's conduct is right in part it is right in the whole, which would be attracting *all* the demand to their own warehouſes; in which caſe there would not be a mercer or draper left in Dublin. Their committees, and gentlemen, and weavers, may chooſe and pay clerks, and diſcharge their rent, but where are the directors of finer fabrics to come from? Where the men of taſte who are to invent? Where the quickneſs and ſagacity to mark and follow the caprice of faſhion? Are theſe to come from weavers? Abſurd the idea! It is the active and intelligent maſter that is to do all this. Go to the weavers in Spitalfields, and ſee them mere tools directed by their maſters. Go to any other fabric upon earth, and ſee what would become of it if the heads were conſidered as uſeleſs, and rivalled in their profits with public money. If the manufacture is of ſuch a ſickly growth, that it will not ſupport the maſter as well as the man, it is not worth a country's notice. What is it that induces individuals to embark in a fabric their capital and induſtry? Profit. The greater this is, the greater the capital that will be attracted; but eſtabliſh a ſyſtem that ſhall rival, leſſen and deſtroy this profit, who will bring their capital to ſuch a trade? And can any people be ſo ſenſeleſs as to imagine, that a manufacture is to be encouraged by baniſhing capital from it?

There is another effect, which I ſhould ſuppoſe muſt flow from this extraordinary idea, which is, that of raiſing great heart-burnings and jealouſies among the trade; the drapers and mercers are not probably at all pleaſed with the weavers, who work for the ſociety's warehouſes; this muſt be very detrimental to the buſineſs at large. I may alſo obſerve, that maſter-manufacturers have more ways of encouraging ſkilful and induſtrious workmen, than the mere buying their goods and employing them; there are a thouſand little points of favour in their power, which the ſociety cannot practice; but how can they be inclined to ſuch things, while ſteps are taken to deprive them of every workman that can do without their aſſiſtance?

Fortunately for the kingdom, it is at Dublin as in other cities, the ready money trade is by no means equal to that of credit, conſequently the pernicious tendency of this meaſure cannot fully be ſeen. The drapers and mercers do and will ſupport their trade in ſpite of this formidable rival, backed with a premium of two thouſand five hundred pounds a year, appropriated to their ruin, in order to encourage their trade! The tendency of the meaſure is evidently the deſtruction of both the manufactures.

This is a fact, which appears ſo obvious, that I ſhould apprehend it muſt have done miſchief, in direct proportion to the amount of the operation. It is extremely difficult to diſcover facts that can prove this from the nature of the caſe; no wonder if the import of foreign ſilk and woollens ſhould have encreaſed from ſuch a meaſure. Let us examine this point.

Account of Silk imported into Ireland in Twenty-ſix Years.*

Years.	*Manufactured.*	*Raw.*	*Riband.*	*Years.*	*Manufactured.*	*Raw.*	*Riband.*
	lb.	*lb.*	*lb.*		*lb.*	*lb.*	*lb.*
1752	14,654	53,705	160	1765	21,582	54,655	1,543
1753	13,360	60,155	184	1766	17,260	54,418	1,724
1754	15,441	42,665	361	1767	19,104	46,067	1,527
1755	9,874	43,947	265	1768	23,446	52,062	1,646
1756	13,715	32,948	140	1769	17,522	57,001	1,401
1757	7,709	41,354	17	1770	20,581	44,273	1,183
1758	17,292	51,303	271	1771	14,095	38,107	650
1759	13,836	44,493	118	1772	15,804	33,611	644
1760	21,878	55,905	366	1773	17,379	53,662	378
1761	14,815	51,348	180	1774	14,665	38,811	553
1762	21,054	70,292	306	1775	13,658	29,578	355
1763	17,741	41,021	469	1776	17,326	41,594	717
1764	23,511	36,581	746	1777	24,187	54,043	1,574
Aver.	15,760	48,132	275	Aver.	18,200	45,990	1,068

Conſidering the extent of the period, I will not aſſert that this table is very deciſive; whatever concluſions, however, that are to be drawn from it, are as far as they go *againſt* the late meaſures that reſpect the Iriſh ſilk manufacture, for the imported fabrics have *increaſed*, while the raw material worked up in Ireland has *decreaſed*; a proof that the manufacture has not been of any very healthy growth.

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* *MS. Communicated by Mr. Forſter.*

An Account of the Import of Woollen Goods for 14 Years ‡.

Years.	New Drapery.	Old Drapery.	Years.	New Drapery.	Old Drapery.
	Yards.	Yards.		Yards.	Yards.
1764	248,002	220,828	1771	362,096	217,395
1765	239,365	176,161	1772	314,703	153,566
1766	313,216	197,316	1773	387,143	210,065
1767	325,585	189,882	1774	461,407	282,317
1768	337,558	198,664	1775	465,611	281,379
1769	394,553	207,117	1776	676,485	290,215
1770	462,499	249,666	1777	731,819	381,330
Average	331,548	205,662	Average	485,609	259,466
			Laſt 7 years	485,609	259,466
			Former do.	331,548	205,662
			Increaſe,	154,061	53,804

The increaſe is ſo great that it might juſtify concluſions againſt all the late meaſures, none of which are near ſo much to be condemned as the eſtabliſhment of the ſocieties warehouſe.

Import of Linen, Cotton, and Silk, Britiſh Manufacture.

			Value.				Value.
			l.				l.
In the year	1764	—	18,858	In the year	1771	—	20,282
	1765	—	18,037		1772	—	14,081
	1766	—	15,557		1773	—	20.472
	1767	—	12,710		1774	—	21,611
	1768	—	16,021		1775	—	24,234
	1769	—	13,402		1776	—	30,371
	1770	—	20,907		1777	—	45,411
Average of ſeven years			16,784	Average of ſeven years			25,208

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‡ *Parl. Rec. of Exp. and Imp. MS.*

When it is conſidered, that the undoubted miſchief of this ſyſtem is not ſubmitted to as an unavoidable evil, but purchaſed with great expence, attention and anxiety; and that the two thouſand five hundred a year thus beſtowed, as the price of ſo much harm, might be expended in objects of great conſequence to the public, it will ſurely ſeem unpardonable in parliament to appear ſo little ſolicitous for the welfare of their manufactures, as to give ten thouſand pounds a ſeſſion, at large, and not limit the application of ſuch a liberal grant to purpoſes of certain advantage. And it ſurely behoves the ſociety itſelf to recommit this matter; to extend their views; to conſider the principles upon which all the manufactures in the world are carried on, ſupported and increaſed; and if they ſee no veſtige of ſuch a policy, as they patronize and practice, in any country that has puſhed her fabrics to a great height, at leaſt to be dubious of this favourite meaſure, and not perſiſt in forcing it at ſuch a conſiderable expence.

Another meaſure of the ſociety, which I hinted at before, is to give three per cent. to the wholeſale purchaſers of Iriſh ſilks for retailing, and this coſts them above ſix hundred pounds a year. Upon what ſound principles this is done I cannot diſcover; if the mercers have not a demand for theſe Iriſh ſilks, five times the ſociety's premiums will not make them purchaſers; on the contrary, if they have a demand for them, they moſt undoubtedly will buy them without any premium for ſo doing. It appears therefore to me, that the only end which ſuch a meaſure could anſwer, was to diſcover the abſolute inſignificance of the whole Iriſh ſilk manufacture, which is proved through the whole kingdom to be to the amount only of thirty-four thouſand pounds a year, of four ſhillings a yard and upwards; but the repetition of the premium ſhews that this was not the deſign. Of all other fabrics this is the moſt improper for Ireland, and for any dependant country; it is an abſolute manufacture of taſte, fancy, and faſhion; the ſeat of empire will always command theſe, and if Dublin made ſuperior ſilks, they would be deſpiſed on compariſon with thoſe of London: we feel ſomething of this in England from France, being the ſource of moſt of the faſhions in Europe. To force a ſilk manufacture in Ireland is therefore to ſtrive againſt whim, caprice, faſhion, and all the prejudices of mankind, inſtead of which, it is theſe that become a ſolid ſupport of fabrics when wiſely ſet on foot. There are no linens faſhionable in England, but the Iriſh people will not wear any other, and yet gulic hollands are aſſerted to be much ſtronger. Should not the Iriſh, therefore, bend their voice to drive the nail that will go, inſtead of plaguing themſelves with one which never will. This is a general obſervation, but the particular meaſure of the ſociety, ſuppoſing the object valuable, is perfectly inſignificant, it is throwing away ſix hundred pounds a year to anſwer no one purpoſe whatever.

The ſociety offers a great number of other premiums for manufactures, many of which are very exceptionable, but it would take up too much room to be particular in an examination of them. In agriculture they have a great number offered to *poor* renters ſeparately.

Upon the general ſpirit of theſe I have to remark, that the deſign of encouraging poor renters is very meritorious, and does honour to the humanity of the ſociety; but from a great variety of inſtances which were pointed out to me, as I travelled through the kingdom, I have too much reaſon to believe, that abuſes and deceptions are numerous, that the ſociety has actually paid premiums per acre, to great numbers of claimants, who have, as ſoon as they received the money, let the land run waſte again, ſo that no perſon could diſtinguiſh it from the adjoining bog or moor. There are two reaſons why theſe premiums muſt very much fail of their wiſhed-for ſucceſs; the extreme difficulty, not to ſay impoſſibility, of aſcertaining the merit of the candidates, or the facts alledged; and the utter impoſſibility that ſuch very poor fellows ſhould work any improvements worthy the ſociety's patronage. The London ſociety have found, by repeated experience, their utter incapacity of doing any thing by weight of money, in bounties per acre for any object; I am convinced the ſame fact will hold true with that of Dublin; the funds even of the latter are much too inconſiderable for this mode. The object ought to be to inſpire thoſe men, who have the neceſſary capital to employ it in the way the ſociety thinks for the public good: the premiums ſhould be honorary but conſiderable, with that degree of variety and novelty that ſhould attract the attention of men of fortune.

But nothing was ever better imagined, than the plan of fixing an Engliſh farmer in the kingdom, ſo much at the ſociety's expence, as to give them a power over a part of his management. This was the caſe with Mr. Baker; and it was alſo a very wiſe meaſure to enable him to eſtabliſh a manufactory of huſbandry implements. The only errors in the execution of this ſcheme were: Firſt, Not ſupporting him much more liberally, when it was found that his private fortune was too inconſiderable to ſupport himſelf and family; had he been eaſy in his private circumſtances, his huſbandry would have been perfect. Second, The not directing him in the choice of his farm, which was not a proper one for an example to the kingdom; it ſhould have been in ſome mountainous tract, where there was bog, and tolerable ſoil. Third, In permitting him to make and publiſh ſmall and trifling experiments, objects of curioſity to a private ſpeculatiſt, but quite unworthy of the Dublin Society; beſides, ſuch a perſon ſhould be brought to eſtabliſh what a previous experience has convinced him is right, not to gain his own knowledge at the ſociety's expence.

The ſcheme, had it, in the caſe of Mr. Baker, been executed in this manner, or was ſuch an one now to be adopted, would tend more to ſpreading a true practical knowledge of agriculture than any other that could be executed; and the union of a manufactory of implements unites with it perfectly. To inform a backward country of right ſyſtems has its uſe, but it is very weak compared with the actual practice and exhibition of it before their eyes; ſuch an object in full perfection of management, with an annual publication of the reſult, ſimply related, would tend more to the improvement of the national huſbandry than any other ſyſtem. The farm ſhould not be leſs than five hundred acres, it ſhould have a tract of bog and another of mountain; one thouſand pounds ſhould be applied in the neceſſary buildings; five hundred pounds immediately in fences; one thouſand pounds a year for five years in ſtocking it; one thouſand pounds for eſtabliſhing a manufactory of implements, not to be ſold but given away by the ſociety as premiums; five hundred pounds a year allowed to the ſuperintendant for his private emolument, that no diſtreſſes of his own might interfere with the public views; and in addition, to animate his attention, ten per cent. upon the groſs product of the farm. The ſociety to delegate their power over it to a ſelect committee, and no member to be eligible to that committee, who had not in his own occupation one hundred acres of land, or more. The firſt expence would be ſeven thouſand five hundred pounds, and the annual charge five hundred pounds; this would be an effective eſtabliſhment that could not fail, if the manager was properly choſen. He ſhould be an active, ſpirited man, not ſo low as to have no reputation to loſe, but at the ſame time more a practical than a ſpeculative farmer, and who could teach the common Iriſh, with his own hands, the operations he wiſhed them to perform. The annual charge of only one of the ſociety's warehouſes is equal to this, and the capital appropriated to it near twice as large; how much more beneficial would this application of the money be?

Relative to the premiums for the encouragement of agriculture, I ſhall venture to hint ſome which I apprehend would be of great advantage; and by throwing them into the words common in offering premiums, my meaning will be better explained.

1. TURNEP HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the perſon who ſhall cultivate the moſt land, not leſs than twenty acres, in the following courſe of crops during four years, viz. 1. Turneps. 2. Barley or oats. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The turneps to be twice thoroughly hand-hoed and eaten where they grow by ſheep, and to make a full report of the cultivation, expences, produce, and effect of the turneps on the ſheep fed, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription. Accounts to be delivered in in the year 1784.

2. For the next greateſt quantity of land, not leſs than ten acres ſo cultivated, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription.

3. To the perſon who ſhall in the year 1780, have the moſt acres of turneps, not leſs than twenty, twice thoroughly hand-hoed; to report the effect, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription.

4. For the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than ten acres, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription.

5. BEAN HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the perſon who ſhall cultivate the moſt land, not leſs than twenty acres, in the following courſe of crops during four years, viz. 1. Beans, 2. Wheat. 3. Beans. 4. Wheat. The beans to be in rows, eighteen inches aſunder, and three times thoroughly hoed, and to report the effect to the ſociety. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with an inſcription. Accounts to be laid in in the year 1784.

6. For the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than ten acres, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with an inſcription.

7. To the perſon who ſhall cultivate the greateſt quantity of land, not leſs than twenty acres, in the following courſe of crops during four years, viz. 1. Beans. 2. Barley or oats. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The beans as before, and to report the effect. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with an inſcription.

8. Next greateſt quantity, not leſs than ten acres. The value of 50l. with an inſcription.

9. FLAX HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the perſon who ſhall cultivate the moſt land, not leſs than twenty acres, in the following courſe of crops during four years, viz. 1. Turneps. 2. Flax. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The turneps to be twice hand-hoed, and the flax to be ſeeded, ſtacked and threſhed like corn, and then watered and dreſſed, and to report the effect to the ſociety. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred and fifty pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription.

10. For the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than ten acres. The plate eighty pounds. Accounts to be delivered in in 1784.

11. MOUNTAIN IMPROVEMENT, 1779. To the perſon who ſhall improve the largeſt tract of mountain land, not leſs than one hundred acres, at preſent waſte, and not let at one ſhilling an acre, and make a full report of the cultivation, expences and produce to the ſociety in the year 1787. A piece of plate of the value of five hundred pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription. *Conditions.*

The improvement at the time of the certificates being ſigned to be completely encloſed; to be divided into fields of not more than ten acres each; the fences to be either walls in mortar, or double ditches well planted with white thorns and timber, the gates, piers, &c. to be perfect. The land to have had four crops in the following courſe: 1. Turneps. 2. Oats, bere or rye. 3. Turneps. 4. Oats, the turneps twice hand-hoed, and eaten when green by ſheep, and one half of the improvement to be in graſs laid down with the laſt crop of oats. Not leſs than one hundred barrels of lime per acre to have been ſpread on the whole. An orchard of two acres to be well planted; and a ſally garden of as much. One good farm houſe, with a barn, ſtable, cowhouſe, &c. and four cabbins to be built and inhabited, the whole of ſtone or mortar, and covered with ſlate. And the tract to be actually let on leaſe to one or more tenants, not occupying any other land, and reſiding on the premiſes. Whoever intends to be claimants to give notice to the ſociety that they may appoint inſpectors.

12. To the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than ſixty acres, on the like conditions, the plate three hundred pounds.

13. BOG IMPROVEMENT, 1779. To the perſon who ſhall drain and improve into rich meadow, the greateſt quantity of bog, not leſs than 50 acres, being part of a bog not leſs than 100 acres, and make a full report to the ſociety of the mode, expences and produce in the year 1788, a piece of plate of the value of 400l. with an honorary inſcription. The ſociety leaves to the claimant to purſue whatever mode he pleaſes, but the land muſt have a good houſe, cowhouſe and neceſſary offices, with two cabbins built all of ſtone and ſlate, and the improvement let to reſident tenants occupying no other land.

14. For the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than thirty acres, the plate two hundred pounds.

15. PLANTING. To the perſon who ſhall incloſe with a wet wall, not leſs than ſix feet high, and plant, the greateſt quantity of land, not leſs than fifty acres, in the year 1780, a piece of plate of the value of four hundred pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription. The trees to be aſh, elm, poplar, beech, larch, ſcotch, ſpruce or ſilver fir, to be not more than four years old, nor more than four feet aſunder, and in the centre of every ſuch ſpace, acorns to be ſown and covered.

16. For the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than thirty acres, the plate two hundred pounds.

17. To the perſon who ſhall in the year 1780, plant and fence ſo as to be completely ſecured from cattle, the greateſt quantity of land with the common baſket ſallow in beds ſix feet broad, and four rows on each bed, not leſs than thirty acres, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a ſuitable inſcription.

18. For the next greateſt quantity, not leſs than fifteen acres, the plate fifty pounds. All to be continued by previous notice, every year when once they came into turn.

I have to obſerve upon them, that the courſes of crops here recommended can only have fair juſtice done them in the infancy of the huſbandry by gentlemen, or men of conſiderable capital; conſequently, it is the wiſeſt to offer a premium that ſhall attract their notice, and not vary it for leſſer tenants, who at firſt would be incapable of executing the conditions. The mountain and bog improvement are great objects, and therefore well deſerve ample encouragement; I have added the condition of *being let* by way of ſatisfactory proof, that the improvement is completely finiſhed, for if it was kept in hand, it would be a matter of opinion and valuation, which is never ſatisfactory. The planting premiums would in all probability have many claimants. The ſtone wall is eſſential; planting without preſervation is trifling.

As to the nature of the premiums, I recommend, viz. pieces of plate, I think they would have a greater effect than any thing elſe; money would be out of ſight and forgotten; a medal that has been proſtituted to all ſorts of trifles, would be a contemptible reward for ſuch exertions, but a handſome cup, vaze, tray, table, &c. would be always in ſight, and on every occaſion a ſubject for converſation to animate others to gain the ſame. The experience of a few years would prove whether the quantities of land required were too high or not. An inſpector to view all proceedings would be abſolutely neceſſary, whoſe reward ſhould be deviſed in ſuch a manner as to ſecure his integrity; unleſs ſome gentlemen of conſiderable conſequence in the neighbourhood took that office voluntarily upon them.

Some premiums upon theſe principles, united with ſuch a plan as I have ſtated for the eſtabliſhment of a farm, would be attended with all the advantage to the national agriculture, in the power of any ſociety to effect. The expence would not be ſo large as not to leave a conſiderable portion of the ſociety's funds for trade and manufactures, and conſequently to pleaſe thoſe who wiſhed ſuch objects not to be neglected.

SECTION XVII.

Manners and Cuſtoms.

Quid legis ſine moribus,
Vana proficiunt!

IT is but an illiberal buſineſs for a traveller, who deſigns to publiſh remarks upon a country, to ſit down coolly in his cloſet and write a ſatire on the inhabitants. Severity of that ſort muſt be enlivened with an uncommon ſhare of wit and ridicule, to pleaſe. Where very groſs abſurdities are found, it is fair and manly to note them; but to enter into character and diſpoſition is generally uncandid, ſince there are no people but might be better than they are found, and none but have virtues which deſerve attention, at leaſt as much as their failings; for theſe reaſons this ſection would not have found a place in my obſervations, had not ſome perſons of much more flippancy than wiſdom, given very groſs miſrepreſentations of the Iriſh nation. It is with pleaſure, therefore, that I take up the pen, on the preſent occaſion; as a much longer reſidence there enables me to exhibit a very different picture; in doing this, I ſhall be free to remark, wherein I think the conduct of certain glaſſes may have given riſe to general and conſequently injurious condemnation.

There are three races of people in Ireland, ſo diſtinct, as to ſtrike the leaſt attentive traveller: theſe are the Spaniſh which are found in Kerry, and a part of Limerick and Corke, tall and thin, but well made, a long viſage, dark eyes, and long black lank hair. The time is not remote when the Spaniards had a kind of ſettlement on the coaſt of Kerry, which ſeemed to be overlooked by government. There were many of them in Queen Elizabeth's reign, nor were they entirely driven out till the time of Cromwell. There is an iſland of Valentia on that coaſt, with various other names, certainly Spaniſh. The Scotch race is in the North, where are to be found the features which are ſuppoſed to mark that people, their accent, and many of their cuſtoms. In a diſtrict, near Dublin, but more particularly in the baronies of Bargie and Forth in the county of Wexford, the Saxon tongue is ſpoken without any mixture of the Iriſh, and the people have a variety of cuſtoms mentioned in the minutes, which diſtinguiſh them from their neighbours. The reſt of the kingdom is made up of mongrels. The Mileſian race of Iriſh, which may be called *native*, are ſcattered over the kingdom, but chiefly found in Connaught and Munſter; a few conſiderable families, whoſe genealogy is undoubted, remain, but none of them with conſiderable poſſeſſions, except the O'Briens and Mr. O'Neil, the former have near twenty thouſand pounds a year in the family; the latter half as much, the remnant of a property once his anceſtors, which now forms ſix or ſeven of the greateſt eſtates in the kingdom. O'Hara and M'Dermot are great names in Connaught, and O'Donnohue a conſiderable one in Kerry; but I heard of a family of O'Driſchal's in Corke, who claim an origin prior in Ireland to any of the Mileſian race.

The only diviſions which a traveller, who paſſed through the kingdom, without making any reſidence, could make, would be into people of conſiderable fortune and mob. The intermediate diviſion of the ſcale, ſo numerous and reſpectable in England, would hardly attract the leaſt notice in Ireland. A reſidence in the kingdom convinces one, however, that there is another claſs in general of ſmall fortune,—country gentlemen and renters of land. The manners, habits and cuſtoms of people of conſiderable fortune, are much the ſame every where, at leaſt there is very little difference between England and Ireland, it is among the common people one muſt look for thoſe traits by which we diſcriminate a national character. The circumſtances which ſtruck me moſt in the common Iriſh were, vivacity and a great and eloquent volubility of ſpeech, one would think they could take ſnuff and talk without tiring till doomſday. They are infinitely more chearful and lively than any thing we commonly ſee in England, having nothing of that incivility of ſullen ſilence, with which ſo many Engliſhmen ſeem to wrap themſelves up, as if retiring within their own importance. Lazy to an exceſs at *work*, but ſo ſpiritedly active at *play*, that at *hurling*, which is the cricket of ſavages, they ſhew the greateſt feats of agility. Their love of ſociety is as remarkable as their curioſity is inſatiable; and their hoſpitality to all comers, be their own poverty ever ſo pinching, has too much merit to be forgotten. Pleaſed to enjoyment with a joke, or witty repartee, they will repeat it with ſuch expreſſion, that the laugh will be univerſal. Warm friends and revengeful enemies; they are inviolable in their ſecrecy, and inevitable in their reſentment; with ſuch a notion of honour, that neither threat nor reward would induce them to betray the ſecret or perſon of a man, though an oppreſſor, whoſe property they would plunder without ceremony. Hard drinkers and quarrelſome; great liars, but civil, ſubmiſſive and obedient. Dancing is ſo univerſal among them, that there are every where itinerant dancing-maſters, to whom the cottars pay ſixpence a quarter for teaching their families. Beſides the Iriſh jig, which they can dance with a moſt *luxuriant* expreſſion, minuets and country dances are taught; and I even heard ſome talk of cotillons coming in.

Some degree of education is alſo general; hedge ſchools, as they are called (they might as well be termed *ditch* ones, for I have ſeen many a ditch full of ſcholars) are every where to be met with, where reading and writing are taught; ſchools are alſo common for men; I have ſeen a dozen great fellows at ſchool, and was told they were educating with an intention of being prieſts. Many ſtrokes in their character are evidently to be aſcribed to the extreme oppreſſion under which they live. If they are as great thieves and liars as they are reported, it is certainly owing to this cauſe.

If from the loweſt claſs we riſe to the higheſt, all there is gaiety, pleaſure, luxury and extravagance; the town life at Dublin is formed on the model of that of London. Every night in the winter there is a ball or a party, where the polite circle meet, not to enjoy but to ſweat each other; a great crowd crammed into twenty feet ſquare gives a zeſt to the *agrémens* of ſmall talk and whiſt. There are four or five houſes large enough to receive a company commodiouſly, but the reſt are ſo ſmall as to make parties deteſtable. There is however an agreeable ſociety in Dublin, in which a man of large fortune will not find his time heavy. The ſtile of living may be gueſſed from the fortunes of the reſident nobility and great commoners; there are about thirty that poſſeſs incomes from ſeven to twenty thouſand pounds a year. The court has nothing remarkable or ſplendid in it, but varies very much, according to the private fortune or liberality of diſpoſition in the Lord Lieutenant.

In the country their life has ſome circumſtances which are not commonly ſeen in England. Large tracts of land are kept in hand by every body to ſupply the deficiencies of markets, this gives ſuch a plenty, that, united with the lowneſs of taxes and prices, one would ſuppoſe it difficult for them to ſpend their incomes, if Dublin in the winter did not lend aſſiſtance. Let it be conſidered, that the prices of meat are much lower than in England; poultry only a fourth of the price; wild fowl and fiſh in vaſtly greater plenty; rum and brandy not half the price; coffee, tea and wines far cheaper; labour not above a third; ſervants wages upon an average thirty per cent. cheaper. That taxes are inconſiderable, for there is no land tax, no poor rates, no window tax, no candle or ſoap tax, only half a wheel tax, no ſervants tax, and a variety of other articles heavily burthened in England, but not in Ireland. Conſidering all this, one would think they could not ſpend their incomes; they do contrive it however. In this buſineſs they are aſſiſted by two cuſtoms that have an admirable tendency to it, great numbers of horſes and ſervants. The exceſs in the latter are in the lower ſort; owing, not only to the general lazineſs, but alſo to the number of attendants every one of a higher claſs will have; this is common in great families in England, but in Ireland a man of five hundred pounds a year feels it. As to horſes the number is carried quite to a folly; in order to explain this point, I ſhall inſert a table of the demeſnes of many of the nobility and gentry, which will ſhew not only the number of horſes, but of other cattle, the quantity of land they keep, and other circumſtances explanatory of their country life.

Names.	*Acres*	*Wood*	*Corn.*	*Turn. Cabb.*	*Rent.*	*Lab' rers.*	*Hor ſes.*	*Plou. Oxen*	*Sheep*
					l.				
Mr. Clements,	240		14		420	20	22	6	163
Col. Marley,	200		31	1½	300		8	4	40
Mr. Rowley,	700	100		3	700		90		250
Lord Conyngham,	447	120	32	3			37		44
Lord Bective,	1600		84		2000	140	100	20	500
Mr. Gerard,	1200		64		1300		12		1300
Lord Longford,	320		32	5	300	20	26	12	100
Mr. Johnſon,	410	110	10	5	320	9	8	4	200
Dean Coote,	500		35	8	350	30	35	8	200
General Walſh,	700		71	5		50			150
Mr. Brown,	300				460		8		800
Mr. Buſhe,	170	30	30	2	330		15	8	70
Lord Courtown,	300		30	7	315	30	21	12	70
General Cuninghame,	150		34		375	20	16	5	70
Lord Gosfort,	300		25	3	450	30	43	4	46
Mr. Cloſe,	100		23		135	9	10		40
Mr. Leſly,	350	100	32		350	30	37	20	150
Mr. Savage,	190		35	2	250		32		40
Mr. O'Niel,	733		57	17	549	40	68	24	500
Mr. Leſlie,	1026	60	101		790	50	46	24	80
Sir J. Caldwell,	700	300	41	11	900				
Mr. Corry,	1000		68		900	120			500
Lord Roſs,	950	125				30	30		120
Lord Farnham,	1000	200	55	10	800	100	108	22	285
Mr. Newcomen,	400		40					18	
Mr. Mahon,	1100	100	60		840	20	30		500
Mr. Cooper,	1000	300	22	8		60	25	12	130
Mr. Brown,	370		18			10	30		300
Mr. Gore,	3300		160		2310	120	170		5000
Lord Altamont,	1500		120	6	1000	100	70	20	200
Mr. French,	1790	252	55			100	20	14	424
Mr. Trench,	1046	100	13		600	80	45	10	980
Sir Lucius O'Brien,	399	30	47		560	60	26	11	138
Mr. Fitzgerald,	3000				2000	26	54	18	1800
Mr. Aldworth,	1270	600	550	12	1010		33	16	500
Lord Donneraile,	1200	200	200	5	1500	60	54	40	400
Colonel Jepſon,	300		35		900		24		120
Mr. Gordon,	915		114		700	45	13	15	187
Mr. Jeffries,	304		20		300		32		200
Mr. Trent,	238	24	21				13	5	200
Lord Shannon,	1600	268	81		1500	132	11	36	470
Mr. Longfield,	1100		78		800	20	65	14	200
Rev. Archd. Oliver,	900		136	16	650	50	25	21	100
Mr. Herbert,	1300	780			400		18	30	300
Mr. Bateman,	250		5		250		30		60
Lord Glendour,	1000	100	55		1000		50		200
Mr. Fitzgerald,	200		23	3	200		21	8	60
Mr. Leſlie,	250	50	27		230		24	6	60
Mr. Oliver,	500	100	24	10	500	50	30	10	125
Mr. Ryves,	300		25		450	6	20		300
Lord Clanwilliam,	640		34	8	600	30	40		600
Mr. Macartney,	9000				10,000	170	180	80	8000
Lord de Montalt,	1300	300				75	40	40	1500
Mr. Moore,	600		17		1155				1000
Lord Tyrone,	2100	1500	64		1200	200	36	48	400
Mr. Bolton,	200		28		300	40	25	0	70
Mr. Nevill,	220	24			350		22		100
Mr. Lloyd,	200				150		12		182
Mr. Holmes,	540	49	25	15	540	40	30	14	590
Mr. Head,	450	16	27		675	20			400
Lord Kingſborough,	600	100	30	5	400	100	40		200

The intelligent reader will collect ſomething more than mere curioſity from this table; it will neceſſarily ſtrike him, that a country reſidence in Ireland demands a much larger quantity of land in hand than in England, from which might be deduced, if not from any thing elſe, how much backwarder the former is than the latter; where markets are wanting every thing muſt be had at home, a caſe ſtronger ſtill in America. In England ſuch extenſive demeſnes would be parks around the ſeats for beauty as much as uſe, but it is not ſo in Ireland; the words *deer-park* and *demeſne* are to be diſtinguiſhed; there are great demeſnes without any parks, but a want of taſte, too common in Ireland, is having a deer-park at a diſtance from the houſe; the reſidence ſurrounded by walls, or hedges, or cabbins; and the lawn encloſure ſcattered with animals of various ſorts, perhaps three miles off. The ſmall quantity of corn proportioned to the total acres, ſhews how little tillage is attended to even by thoſe who are the beſt able to carry it on; and the column of turneps proves in the cleareſt manner, what the progreſs of improvement is in that kingdom. The number of horſes may almoſt be eſteemed a ſatire upon common ſenſe; were they well fed enough to be uſeful, they would not be ſo numerous, but I have found a good hack for a common ride ſcarce in a houſe where there were a hundred. Upon an average, the horſes in gentlemen's ſtables, throughout the kingdom, are not fed half ſo well as they are in England by men of equal fortune; yet the number makes the expence of them very heavy.

Another circumſtance to be remarked in the country life is the miſerableneſs of many of their houſes; there are men of five thouſand a year in Ireland, who live in habitations that a man of ſeven hundred a year in England would diſdain; an air of neatneſs, order, dreſs, and *propreté*, is wanting to a ſurprizing degree around the manſion; even new and excellent houſes have often nothing of this about them. But the badneſs of the houſes is remedying every hour throughout the whole kingdom, for the number of new ones juſt built, or building, is prodigiouſly great. I ſhould ſuppoſe there were not ten dwellings in the kingdom thirty years ago that were fit for an Engliſh pig to live in. Gardens were equally bad, but now they are running into the contrary extreme, and wall in five, ſix, ten, and even twenty Iriſh acres for a garden, but generally double or treble what is neceſſary.

The tables of people of fortune are very plentifully ſpread; many elegantly, differing in nothing from thoſe of England. I think I remarked that veniſon wants the flavour it has with us, probably for the ſame reaſon, that the produce of rich parks is never equal to that of poor ones; the moiſture of the climate, and the richneſs of the ſoil, give fat but not flavour. Another reaſon is the ſmallneſs of the parks, a man who has three or four thouſand acres in his hands, has not, perhaps, above three or four hundred in his deer park, and range is a great point for good veniſon. Nor do I think that garden vegetables have the flavour found in thoſe of England, certainly owing to the climate; green peas I found every where perfectly inſipid, and lettuce, &c. not good. Claret is the common wine of all tables, and ſo much inferior to what is drank in England, that it does not appear to be the ſame wine, but their port is incomparable, ſo much better than the Engliſh, as to prove, if proof was wanting, the abominable adulterations it muſt undergo with us. Drinking and duelling are two charges which have long been alledged againſt the gentlemen of Ireland, but the change of manners which has taken place in that kingdom is not generally known in England. Drunkenneſs ought no longer to be a reproach, for at every table I was at in Ireland I ſaw perfect freedom reign, every perſon drank juſt as little as they pleaſed, nor have I ever been aſked to drink a ſingle glaſs more than I had an inclination for; I may go farther, and aſſert that hard drinking is very rare among people of fortune; yet it is certain that they ſit much longer at table than in England. I was much ſurprized at firſt going over to find no ſummons to coffee, the company often ſitting till eight, nine, or ten o'clock before they went to the ladies. If a gentleman likes tea or coffee, he retires without ſaying any thing, a ſtranger of rank may propoſe it to the maſter of the houſe, who from cuſtom contrary to that of England, will not ſtir till he receives ſuch a hint, as they think it would imply a deſire to ſave their wine. If the gentlemen were generally deſirous of tea I take it for granted they would have it, but their ſlighting is one inconvenience to ſuch as deſire it, not knowing when it is provided, converſation may carry them beyond the time, and then if they do *trifle* over the coffee it will certainly be *cold*. There is a want of attention in this, which the ladies ſhould remedy, if they will not break the old cuſtom and ſend to the gentlemen, which is what they ought to do, they certainly ſhould have a ſalver freſh. I muſt however remark, that at the politeſt tables, which are thoſe of people who have reſided much out of Ireland, this point is conducted exactly as it is in England.

Duelling was once carried to an exceſs, which was a real reproach and ſcandal to the kingdom; it of courſe proceeded from exceſſive drinking; as the cauſe has diſappeared, the effect has nearly followed: not, however, entirely, for it is yet far more common among people of faſhion than in England. Of all practices a man who felt for the honour of his country, would wiſh ſooneſt to baniſh this, for there is not one favourable concluſion to be drawn from it: as to courage nobody can queſtion that of a polite and enlightened nation, entitled to a ſhare of the reputation of the age; but it implies uncivilized manners, an ignorance of thoſe forms which govern polite ſocieties, or elſe a brutal drunkenneſs; the latter is no longer the cauſe of the pretence. As to the former, they would place the national character ſo backward, would take from it ſo much of its pretence to civilization, elegance and politeneſs of manners, that no true Iriſhman would be pleaſed with the imputation. Certain it is, that none are ſo captious as thoſe who think themſelves neglected or deſpiſed; and none are ſo ready to believe themſelves either one or the other, as perſons unuſed to good company. Captious people, therefore, who are ready to take an affront, muſt inevitably have been accuſtomed to ill company, unleſs there ſhould be ſomething uncommonly crooked in their natural diſpoſitions, which is not to be ſuppoſed. Let every man that fights his one, two, three, or half a dozen duels, receive it as a maxim, that every one he adds to the number is but an additional proof of his being ill educated, and having vitiated his manners by the contagion of bad company; who is it that can reckon the moſt numerous rencounters? who but the bucks, bloods, landjobbers, and little drunken country gentlemen? Ought not people of faſhion to bluſh at a practice which will very ſoon be the diſtinction only of the moſt contemptible of the people? the point of honour will and muſt remain for the deciſion of certain affronts, but it will rarely be had recourſe to in polite, ſenſible, and well bred company. The practice among *real* gentlemen in Ireland every day declining is a ſtrong proof, that a knowledge of the world corrects the old manners, and conſequently its having ever been prevalent was owing to the cauſes to which I have attributed it.

There is another point of manners ſomewhat connected with the preſent ſubject, which partly induced me to place a motto at the head of this ſection. It is the conduct of juries; the criminal law of Ireland is the ſame as that of England, but in the execution it is ſo different, as ſcarcely to be known. I believe it is a fact, at leaſt I have been aſſured ſo, that no man was ever hanged in Ireland for killing another in a duel: the ſecurity is ſuch that nobody ever thought of removing out of the way of juſtice, yet there have been deaths of that ſort, which had no more to do with *honour*, than ſtabbing in the dark. I believe Ireland is the only country in Europe, I am ſure it is the only part of the Britiſh dominions, where aſſociations among men of fortune are neceſſary for apprehending raviſhers. It is ſcarcely credible how many young women, have even of late years been raviſhed, and carried off in order (as they generally have fortunes) to gain to appearance a voluntary marriage. Theſe actions it is true are not committed by the claſs I am conſidering at preſent; but they are tried by them, and ACQUITTED. I think there has been only one man executed for that crime, which is ſo common as to occaſion the aſſociations I mentioned; it is to this ſupine execution of the law that ſuch enormities are owing. Another circumſtance which has the effect of ſcreening all ſorts of offenders, is men of fortune protecting them, and making intereſt for their acquittal, which is attended with a variety of evil conſequences. I heard it boaſted in the county of Fermanagh, that there had not been a man hanged in it for two and twenty years: all I concluded from this was, that there had been many a jury who deſerved it richly.

Let me, however, conclude what I have to obſerve on the conduct of the principal people reſiding in Ireland, that there are great numbers among them who are as liberal in all their ideas as any people in Europe; that they have ſeen the errors which have given an ill character to the manners of their country, and done every thing that example could effect to produce a change: that that happy change has been partly effected, and is effecting every hour, inſomuch that a man may go into a vaſt variety of families which he will find actuated by no other principles than thoſe of the moſt cultivated politeneſs, and the moſt liberal urbanity.

But I muſt now come to another claſs of people, to whoſe conduct it is almoſt entirely owing, that the character of the nation has not that luſtre abroad, which I dare aſſert, it will ſoon very generally merit: this is the claſs of little country gentlemen *; tenants, who drink their claret by means of profit rents; jobbers in farms; bucks; your fellows with round hats, edged with gold, who hunt in the day, get drunk in the evening, and fight the next morning. I ſhall not dwell on a ſubject ſo perfectly diſagreeable, but remark that theſe are the men among whom drinking, wrangling, quarreling, fighting, raviſhing, &c. &c. &c. are found as in their native ſoil; once to a degree that made them the peſt of ſociety; they are growing better, but even now, one or two of them got by accident (where they have no buſineſs) into better company are ſufficient very much to *derange* the pleaſures that reſult from a liberal converſation. A new ſpirit; new faſhions; new modes of politeneſs exhibited by the higher ranks are imitated by the lower, which will, it is to be hoped, put an end to this race of beings; and either drive their ſons and couſins into the army or navy, or ſink them into plain farmers like thoſe we have in England, where it is common to ſee men with much greater property without pretending to be gentlemen. I repeat it from the intelligence I received, that even this claſs are very different from what they were twenty years ago, and improve ſo faſt that the time will ſoon come when the national character will not be degraded by any ſet.

That character is upon the whole reſpectable: it would be unfair to attribute to the nation at large the vices and follies of only one claſs of individuals. Thoſe perſons from whom it is candid to take a general eſtimate do credit to their country. That they are a people learned, lively and ingenious; the admirable authors they have produced will be

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* *This expreſſion is not to be taken in a general ſenſe. God forbid I ſhould give this character of all country gentlemen of ſmall fortunes in Ireland: I have myſelf been acquainted with exceptions. —I mean only that in general they are not the moſt liberal people in the kingdom.*

an eternal monument, witneſs their Swift, Sterne, Congreve, Boyle, Berkeley, Steele, Farquhar, Southern, and Goldſmith. Their talent for eloquence is felt, and acknowledged in the parliaments of both the kingdoms. Our own ſervice both by ſea and land, as well as that (unfortunately for us) of the principal monarchies of Europe ſpeak their ſteady and determined courage. Every unprejudiced traveller who viſits them will be as much pleaſed with their chearfulneſs, as obliged by their hoſpitality: and will find them a brave, polite, and liberal people.

SECTION XVIII.

Corn Trade of Ireland.——Bounty on inland Carriage.

THE police of corn in Ireland is almoſt confined to one of the moſt ſingular meaſures that have any where been adopted, which is giving a bounty on the inland carriage of corn from all parts of the kingdom, to the capital. Before it is fully explained it will be neceſſary to ſtate the motives that were the inducement to it.

Dublin, it was aſſerted from the peculiarity of its ſituation, on the eaſtern extremity without any inland navigations leading to it, was found to be in point of conſumption more an Engliſh than an Iriſh city, in corn almoſt as much as in coals. The import of corn and flour drained the kingdom of great ſums at the ſame time that the ſupply was uncertain and precarious. It was farther aſſerted that tillage was exceedingly neglected in Ireland, to the impoveriſhment of the kingdom, and the miſery of the poor. That if ſome meaſure could be ſtruck out at once to remedy thoſe two evils, it would be of ſingular advantage to the community.

This reaſoning furniſhed the hint to a gentleman of very conſiderable abilities, now high in office, there to plan the meaſure I am ſpeaking of. It has been perfected by repeated acts giving a bounty on

5 Cwt.	or	40 ſtone	Flour	three-pence per mile.
ditto	—	ditto	Malt	two-pence halfp. ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Wheat	three-halfpence ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Oats	one penny ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Bere	three-halfpence ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Barley	three-halfpence ditto.

Oatmeal the ſame as oats; the ten firſt miles from Dublin deducted, it amounts, as has been found by experience, to near twenty per cent. more for flour than the real expenſe of carriage, and one and a half per cent. more for wheat. In conſequence of this act many of the fineſt mills for grinding corn that are to be found in the world were erected, ſome of which have been built upon ſuch a ſcale, as to have coſt near 20,000 l. The effect has been conſiderable in extending tillage, and great quantities of the produce are carried to Dublin. Before I offer any obſervations on this ſyſtem, it will be neceſſary to inſert ſuch tables as are neceſſary to explain the extent, effect, and expenſe of the meaſure which took place in 1762, and in 1776 and 7, aroſe to above 60,000l. In order to ſee what the import was before that period, and alſo what it was before the bounty was in full ſway, as well as ſince, the following table will have its uſe.

IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.

	Barley and malt. Qrs.	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Ct.
Year 1744	2,450	329	20,977
1745	11,305	6,342	24,708
1746	138,934	129,190	110,832
1747	85,316	28,973	37,190
1748	29,015	3,402	—
1749	39,121	8,720	30,502
Average,	51,023	29,492	37,368
Value, £	51,023	44,238	18,684
Year 1750	44,836	16,275	50,637
1751	47,581	20,317	60,985
1752	69,861	30,425	78,282
1753	61,927	18,195	63,527
1754	109,539	39,635	91,583
1755	99,386	57,699	89,015
1756	78,061	20,412	71,343
Average,	73,027	28,994	72,196
Value, £	73,027	43,491	36,098

	Barley and Malt.		Wheat.		Flour.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	qrs.	l.	qrs.	l.	C.	l.
Year 1757	59,354	59,354	31,711	47,567	55,975	27,978
1758	38,123	38,123	27,850	41,775	72,490	36,245
1759	6,071	6,071	4,718	7,078	27,258	13,629
1760	34,678	34,678	3,697	5,546	30,093	15,046
1761	30,208	30,208	2,427	3,641	30,982	15,491
1762	37,500	37,500	17,129	25,694	51,522	25,761
1763	44,264	44,264	22,655	33,982	57,048	28,524
Average,	35,742	35,743	15,741	23,612	46,481	23,382

IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.

	Barley & Malt.		Wheat.		Flour.	
	Quant.	*Value.*	*Quant.*	*Value.*	*Quant.*	*Value.*
	qrs.	l.	qrs.	l.	*Cwt.*	l.
Year 1764	31,587	31,587	25,763	38,645	108,209	54,104
1765	48,854	48,854	10,529	15,794	67,409	33,704
1766	40,356	40,356	14,130	21,196	81,371	40,685
1767	30,681	30,681	39,456	59,184	58,182	29,091
1768	5,684	5,684	11,802	17,704	22,600	11,300
1769	4,759	5,948	2,199	3,299	15,447	7,723
1770	35,514	44,392	43,532	87,065	86,776	52,065
Average,	28,205	29,643	21,059	34,698	62,856	32,667
Year 1771	55,626	69,525	53,448	106,897	125,321	75,193
1772	22,372	27,965	12,163	24,327	47,754	28,652
1773	6,970	8,712	2,861	5,722	10,306	6,183
1774	189	236	4,104	8,893	23,465	14,079
1775	656	820	3,235	7,009	28,902	17,341
1776	7,857	8,643	7,547	16,353	26,292	15,775
1777	43,101	47,451	3,457	7,490	69,838	41,903
Average,	19,538	23,330	12,402	25,242	47,697	28,446*

BARLEY AND MALT.

Average import of the	*Qrs.*	*Value.* l.
Firſt period,	51,023	51,023
Second ditto,	73,027	73,027
Third ditto,	35,742	35,743
Fourth ditto,	28,205	29,643
Fifth ditto,	19,538	23,330

WHEAT.

Average of the	*Qrs.*	*Value.* l.
Firſt period,	29,492	44,238
Second ditto,	28,994	43,491
Third ditto,	15,741	23,612
Fourth ditto,	21,059	34,698
Fifth ditto,	11,402	25,242

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* *M S. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Beresford, firſt commiſſioner of the revenue in Ireland.*

FLOUR.

FLOUR.

Average of the	Cwt.	Value. l.
Firſt period,	37,368	18,684
Second ditto,	72,196	36,098
Third ditto,	46,481	23,382
Fourth ditto,	62,856	32,667
Fifth ditto,	47,697	28,446

	l.
Average value of the three commodities in the three firſt periods	116,436
Ditto of the two laſt,	71,013
The import in the laſt fourteen years is leſs than in the preceding twenty, by	45,423
Import of the fourth period	97,008
Ditto of the fifth, being the period in which the bounty hath taken full effect,	77,018
Difference,	19,990

Theſe authentic compariſons differ moſt ſurprizingly from the aſſertions that have been made to me in converſation. I was led to believe that Dublin was no longer fed with Engliſh corn and flour, and that the difference of the import ſince the bounty took effect was not leſs than 200,000l. a year. What thoſe aſſertions could mean is to me perfectly ænigmatical. Have the gentlemen who are faſt friends to this meaſure, never taken the trouble to examine theſe papers? Has the buſineſs been ſo often before parliament, and committees of parliament, without having been particularly ſifted? We here find that the import into Ireland of foreign barley and malt, wheat and flower have leſſened in the laſt ſeven years, compared with the preceding ſeven years, no more than to the amount of about 20,000l. I read with attention the report of Mr. Forſter's committee in 1774, the purport of which was to eſtabliſh the principles whereon this bounty was given, but as the whole of that performance turns on a compariſon of fifteen years before 1758, and fifteen years after, though itſelf contains a declaration (page 7) that the great effect of the meaſure then concerned only the three laſt years, very little infomation of conſequence is to be drawn from it, ſince it aſſigns a merit to the meaſure while it admits none could flow from it; nor does the whole report contain one ſyllable of the decreaſe in the export of paſturage, which ought to have been minutely examined. But in order that we may have the whole corn trade before us, let me inſert the import of other ſorts of corn.

	Wheat Meal.		*Oatmeal.*		*Beans & Peaſe.*		*Oats.*	
	Quant.	*Value.*	*Quant.*	*Value.*	*Quant.*	*Value.*	*Quant.*	*Value.*
	Barrels.	l.	*Barrels.*	l.	*Qrs.*	l.	*Qrs.*	l.
Year 1757			4,677	1,559	425	382		
1758			4,038	1,346	647	582	5.985	3,591
1759			10	3	269	242	59	35
1760	9	11			410	369	72	43
1761					285	256	56	33
1762	95	119	1,181	393	497	447	9	5
1763	23	29	7,912	2,637	366	329		
Average,	18	22	2.545	848	414	373	883	529
Year 1764	1,136	1,420	55	18	543	489	139	83
1765	46	57			868	781		
1766	417	521	520	173	579	521	744	446
1767	9,659	12,074	740	246	689	620	2,854	1,712
1768	5,351	6,689			389	350	950	570
1769	1,023	1,278			453	453	115	74
1770	1,854	2,781	104	36	752	752	44	28
Average,	2,355	3,546	202	67	610	566	692	416
Year 1771	3,686	5.529	14,625	5,119	2,356	2.356	1,820	1,274
1772	2,904	4,356	13.599	4,759	836	836	351	246
1773	782	1,173	1,495	523	428	428	56	39
1774	759	1,138	430	150	481	602	333	250
1775	1,600	2,400	1,171	410	1,110	1,388	4	3
1776	682	1,023			781	976	24	18
1777	36	48	1,558	545	6,305	7,882	387	290
Average,	1,492	2,238	4,695	1,644	1,757	2,067	425	303*

	l.
Value of the import per annum of theſe articles in the laſt ſeven years, —	6,252
Ditto in the preceding ſeven years, ——	4,595
Increaſe, —	1,657

Here therefore we find that inſtead of a decreaſe in the import the contrary has taken place.

Recapitulation of the total Value of Corn, Flour, &c. imported.

In

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* *MS. communicated by the Right Hon. Iſaac Barrè.*

In the year	1757	136,860	In the year	1764	126,346
	1758	121,662		1765	98,190
	1759	27,058		1766	103,898
	1760	55,654		1767	133,608
	1761	49,629		1768	42,297
	1762	89,919		1769	18,776
	1763	109,765		1770	*187,119
Average of 7 years,		84,369	Average of 7 years,		101,604

		l.			l.
In the year	1771	265,897	In the year	1775	29,371
	1772	91,141		1776	42,788
	1773	22,780		1777	105,559
	1774	25,348			
			Average of seven years		84,697

	l.
Second period,	101,604
Laſt ſeven years,	84,907
Decreaſe,	16,907

Here is the reſult of the whole import account; the balance of which in favour of the nation is no more than this trifling ſum of ſixteen thouſand pounds. The account however muſt be farther examined; we muſt take the export ſide of the queſtion, for there has been an export notwithſtanding this great import. We ſee ſomething of this in the regiſter of our Engliſh corn trade, where is a conſiderable ſpeculative commerce in corn; but as no ſuch thing exiſts in Ireland, where the corn trade is a ſimple import of a neceſſary of life, it is a little ſurprizing if any great export appears. Let us however examine the account.

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* *The Dublin Society were not very accurate, when in their petition to parliament they ſet forth, that in two years preceding* 1771, *the import amounted to* upwards *of* 600,000l.

VALUE

VALUE OF ALL THE CORN EXPORTED.

	CORN.								FLOUR AND MEAL				
	Barley.	*Beans.*	*Malt.*	*Meslin.*	*Oats.*	*Peaſe*	*Rye.*	*Wheat.*	*Flour.*	*Groat*	*Oat.*	*Wheat*	TOTALS.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Year 1757	44	75	3		5.369	5		4		9	6.576	20	12.105
1758	6,537	128	10		3.120	20		1,037		12	2 231	9	13.104
1759	2,076	312	422		12,281	38	13	3.521		378	12.536	65	31.642
1760	3.701	535	780		1,233	71	143	2,317		92	4,410	257	13.539
1761	2.942	853	1,210		686	53	310	1		30	5,816	26	11,927
1762	1,814	886	665		1,680	70	46	16		573	3.738	54	9.542
1763	2,734	105	70		4 314	13		154		4	4.988	21	12 403
Average,	2,835	413	451		4,097	38	73	1,007		156	5 756	64	14 894
Year 1764	1,785	318	376	64	6 684	78	6	44		158	9.189	166	18.868
1765	874	911	1,056		13.512	67	128	495		35	11,042	27	28.149
1766	8,712	840	1,032		8.365	237	68	351		222	15,701	29	35.557
1767					238	12				2	180	15	447
1768	8,205	108	13		9.300	433	5	3,627	2,867		17,897	15	42,470
1769	8,485	677	6,127		29.408	148	33	14.422	10,627	20	29,386	7	99.340
1770	1,066	60	1,234		12 924	20		103	12	3	13.840		29,268
Average,	4.161	416	1.405	9	11 490	142	34	2.720	1.929	62	13,890	37	36,299
Year 1771	168	3	390		3.217	18			29	6	495		4.326
1772	1,109	56	176		14,079	33	13	1,694	197	11	20,248		37.616
1773	5,784	428	155		10.250	55	54	4.374	115	25	10,040		31,280
1774	12,405	643	674		37,330	164	137	1,825	1.144	20	41,706		96.048
1775	13.327	13	375		23,347	121	140	8.268	3,524	30	18,749		65,894
1776	7,874	775	2		45 668	268	59	30,705	9,024	75	19,714	133	114,297
1777	859	2,217			47.911	348		26,158	18.405	170	8,574		104,612
Average,	5.932	590	253		25.971	143	57	10.432	4.634	48	17,075	19	64.871 §

§ Drawn from the totals of the export tables in the MS. communicated by Colonel Barrè.

	l.
Exported in the laſt ſeven years per annum, —	64,871
Ditto in the ſeven preceding, — —	36,299
Increaſe, —	28,572

But as the preceding table includes the export from all the ports in the kingdom, I have inſerted it as an object of general information, not as immediately neceſſary to the enquiry before us, which concerns the port of Dublin only. A meaſure which draws the corn to that capital from all the ports in the kingdom, can never promote an export from them, but muſt operate in a contrary manner: for this reaſon I have drawn the export of the port of Dublin from the general tables for twenty-one years, and find the averages of the three periods, each of ſeven years, to be in value as follows: the table itſelf is too voluminous to inſert.

	l.	s.	d.
Exported in the firſt ſeven years, per annum, —	2692	5	0
——————— ſecond ditto, —	3978	2	0
——————— laſt ditto, — —	7550	9	0
The laſt period greater than the preceding by	3572	7	0

Which ſum is the profit to be carried to the account of the inland carriage bounty.

I muſt here obſerve, that there was a bounty given on exportation, which took place the 24th of June, 1774. viz. 3s. 2d. on the quarter of wheat, ground wheat, meal, or wheat flour. 2s. 4d. on the quarter of rye, peaſe or beans ground or unground. 1s. 3d. on the quarter of oats, which act declares the half quarter of wheat, rye, peaſe, beans, meal, &c. ſhall be 224lb. barley and malt were left out to enſure the acts paſſing in England.

The following ſeſſions an additional duty on the import was laid of 2s. a barrel on all wheat, and 1s. per hundred weight on all flour, meal, bread, and biſcuit, except of the produce of or manufacture of Great Britain, to be levied when the middle price of wheat at the port where imported ſhall exceed 23s. Engliſh, the barrel of 280lb. The old duty on wheat was 2d. per barrel; on flour 1s. from all ports, Great Britain included.

	l.
Decreaſe in the import of the laſt ſeven years, —	16,907
Increaſe in the export from Dublin, —	3,572
Total gain per ann. according to this account in the laſt ſeven years, ———	20,479

The reader is not to imagine from hence, that the corn trade of Ireland yields a balance of profit; the advantage to be attributed to the bounty from this account is only a *leſſening* of loſs, as will appear from the following ſtate of export and import over the whole kingdom.

IMPORT

IMPORT AND EXPORT COMPARED IN VALUE.

	Import.	*Export.*	*Balance profit.*	*Balance loſs.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Year 1757	136,860	12,105		124,755
1758	121,662	13,104		108,558
1759	27,058	31,642	4,584	
1760	55,694	13,539		42,155
1761	49,629	11,927		37,702
1762	89,919	9,542		80,377
1763	109,762	12,403		97,359
Average,	84,369	14,894	654	70,129
Year 1764	126,346	18,868		107,478
1765	99,190	28,149		71,041
1766	103,898	35,557		68,341
1767	133,608	447		133,161
1768	42,297	42,470	173	
1769	18,776	99,340	80,564	
1770	187,119	29,268		157,851
Average,	101,604	36,299	11,533	76,838
Year 1771	265,897	4,326		261,571
1772	91,141	37,616		53,525
1773	22,788	31,280	8,493	
1774	25,348	96,048	70,700	
1775	29,371	65,894	36,523	
1776	42,788	114,297	71,509	
1777	105,559	104,642		917
Average,	83,270	64,871	26,746	45,144

Loſs per annum in the middle ſeven years,	76,838
Gain ditto,	11,533
Neat loſs per annum,	65,305
Loſs per annum in the laſt ſeven years,	45,144
Gain ditto,	26,746
Neat loſs per annum,	18,398

It is a reduction of the loſs of 65,000l. down to 18,000l.

Having thus diſcovered the advantage of the meaſure, let us in the next place examine, at what expenſe this benefit has been obtained. The following table ſhews the payments of the bounty to each county; the totals; the ſtones of corn, and the cwts. of flour brought.

An ACCOUNT of the Sums paid as Bounties on the Inland Carriage of Corn to Dublin. From the beginning to 1777.

	1762.	1763.	1764.	1765.	1766.	1767.	1768.	1769.
Antrim,	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l. 21
Armagh,				1				
Carlow,	160	161	228	94	151	59	197	849
Cavan,				15			5	
Clare,					1			31
Cork,					83	133	587	907
Donegal,								25
Dublin,		4						133
Fermanagh,								
Galway,	50	12	107	327	345	18	178	303
Kildare,	748	614	518	387	446	318	518	2,304
Kilkenny,	2,079	2,507	2,647	2,719	4,506	3.172	5,712	9,294
King's	447	327	461	524	389	133	669	1,207
Leitrim,			5				8	41
Limerick,				686	1,383	772	644	799
Longford,	3		12	47	36	16	304	5,341
Louth,				3	2	620	78	42
Mayo,			3	7	11		6	61
Meath,	506	422	396	303	267	461	1,314	2,567
Monaghan,								
Queen's	651	707	756	596	597	48	1,085	2,308
Roſcommon,	12	6	105	312	159		346	653
Sligo,			9	14	8	119	93	226
Tipperary,	191	220	70	232	339	172	338	806
Waterford,								
Weſtmeath,	33	25	62	313	325	15	622	874
Wexford,	33	30	61	45	143	3	910	1,106
Wicklow,	21	55	35	25	22		53	124
Totals,	4,940	5,096	5,483	6,660	9,212	6,074	13,675	25,225
	1,730,869 ſt.	1,592,418 ſt.	1,622,933 ſt.	1,409,726 ſt.	1,464,296 ſt.*	945,289 ſt.*	2,148,805 ſt.*	2,608,910 ſt. 107,986 Ct.

* Flour included.

An ACCOUNT of the Sums paid as Bounties on the Inland Carriage of Corn to Dublin. Continued.

	1770.	1771.	1772.	1773.	1774.	1775	1776.	1777.
Antrim,	267	l. 133	l. 7	l. 27	l.	l.	l.	l.
Armagh,	3	4						
Carlow,	800	423	1,025	2,676	2,813	2,425	1,994	2,479
Cavan,	2			6		8	24	18
Clare,	34	4	116	179	199	131	133	
Corke,	979	1,399	1,350	1,491	1,902	783	4,200	2,350
Donegall,								
Dublin,	300	289	400	488	576	460	469	517
Fermanagh,				2	5			
Galway,	70	13	461	623	812	1,570	1,873	1,200
Kildare,	11,910	2,187	2,939	3,372	2,922	2,603	4,199	3,485
Kilkenny,	8,104	9,752	18,215	16,279	14,966	14,690	16,326	20,816
King's	624	678	2,243	2,021	2,647	1,750	3,138	3,161
Leitrim,	3	1	20	20	3	8	45	17
Limerick,	79	463	714	1,134	2,604	3,066	2,773	607
Longford,	143	15	217	277	170	341	339	311
Louth,	36	27	163	131	66	27	150	212
Mayo,	4	5	85	214	203	339	201	157
Meath,	2,158	1,351	2,333	2,455	2,733	2,739	3,633	4,594
Monagham,		3	4				13	66
Queen's	1,479	1,781	3,512	3,564	3,511	3,558	4,056	3,161
Roſcommon,	193	18	598	958	1,135	1,012	1,892	1,740
Sligo,	202	14	391	433	388	198	320	192
Tipperary,	381	103	2,997	4,963	8,070	10,426	10,577	9,862
Waterford,				110	129	188	46	
Weſtmeath,	350	292	877	1,467	1,912	1,415	2,045	1,562
Wexford,	495	293	820	1,437	1,745	2,306	3,172	4,952
Wicklow,	81	28	63	125	204	124	116	318
Totals,	18.706	19,290	39.560	44,465	49.674	53,889	60.745	61,786
	1,920,978 ſt. 79,350 Ct.	1,641.867 ſt. 87,965 Ct.	3,146,960 ſt. 153,139 Ct.	3,263,199 ſt. 175,177 Ct.	3,553,996 ſt. 190,346 Ct.	3,211,214 ſt. 213,885 Ct.	3,622,076 ſt. 255,256 Ct.	3,240,692 ſt. 317,753 Ct.§

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§ Taken from the Journals of the Houſe of Commons. In 1778 the total payment was 71,533 l. and in 1779, 67,864 l. beſides 2,500 l. for it coaſtways, a new bounty.

Total payment in		l.	Total payment in		l.
	1764 -	5,483		1771 -	19,290
	1765 -	6,660		1772 -	39,560
	1766 -	9,212		1773 -	44,465
	1767 -	6,074		1774 -	49,674
	1768 -	13,675		1775 -	53,889
	1769 -	25,225		1776 -	60,745
	1770 -	18,706		1777 -	61,786
Paid in ſeven years,		85,038	Paid in ſeven years,		329,413
Which is, per ann.		12,148	Which is, per ann.		47,059

If therefore the account was to be cloſed here, it appears that forty-ſeven thouſand pounds per annum, have been given of the public money for a gain in the export and import account of corn of twenty thouſand pounds a year. Surely this is paying very dear for it! — but the account does not end here.

From this table the reader finds, that the bounty has been continually riſing, until it has exceeded ſixty thouſand pounds a year. It alſo appears, that the encreaſe of tillage has been chiefly in the counties of Kilkenny, Tipperary, Carlow, Meath, Kildare, King's, Wexford, Queen's, and Limerick, as will appear by contraſting the firſt and the laſt years of thoſe counties.

Counties,	1762 l.	1777 l.
Kilkenny,	2,079	20,816
Tipperary,	191	9,862
Carlow,	160	2,479
Meath,	506	4,594
Kildare,	748	3,485
King's	447	3,161
Wexford,	33	4,952
Queen's,	651	3,161
Roſcommon,	12	1,740

And Limerick aroſe from nothing at all to 2773l. in the year 1776; from hence one fact clearly appears, that the increaſe of tillage has by no means been in the poor counties, by breaking up uncultivated lands; on the contrary, it has been entirely in the richeſt counties in the kingdom, which confirms the intelligence I received on the journey, that it was good ſheep land that had principally been tilled. The bounty to Tipperary, Carlow, and Roſcommon, once the greateſt ſheep counties in Ireland, was inſignificant at the beginning of the meaſure, but has at laſt become very great. This circumſtance, ſo eſſential in the ſubject, renders it abſolutely neceſſary to enlarge our enquiry, that we may examine, as well as our materials will permit, whether any national loſs, as well as profit, has reſulted from converting ſo much rich paſture land into tillage; and in order to do this, it will be neceſſary to lay before the reader the exports of the produce of paſturage from Ireland, during theſe two periods of ſeven years each, which ſerve us for a compariſon.

An ACCOUNT of the Export of the Produce of Paſturage, from 1753 to 1777.*

	Barrels of Beef.	Ct. Butter.	Ct. Candles	No. Hides.	Ct. Tallow.	Cows, bull. and horſes.	Ct. Cheeſe.
Year 1753	180,877	200,060		160,656	29,128		
1754	149,558	107,998		128,739	20,156		
1755	180,980	223,294		154,184	26,029		
1756	142,686	203,876		113,523	21,217		
1757	147,804	181,134		158,822	18,006		
1758	195,789	181,454		161,197	17,960		
1759	136,356	237,169		117,113	22,331		
Average,	162,034	203,569		142,033	22,118		
Year 1764	218,220	257,976	8,895	163,812	50,501	1,089	3,466
1765	199,999	301,109	5,564	106,335	52,706	1,767	3,927
1766	190,409	271,946	3,293	121,854	46,543	2,135	3,840
1767	173,484	257,047	2,862	111,895	51,071	1,880	3,541
1768	209,847	304,623	4,222	124,149	51,662	3,505	4,113
1769	205,368	315,153	3,428	113,056	49,089	2,626	2,686
1770	208,269	262,717	1,730	131,130	48,260	1,887	1,815
Average,	200,799	201,510	4,284	124,604	49,976	2,127	3,341
Year 1771	201,010	238,801	2,170	139,759	46,842	1,298	1,996
1772	200,829	288,457	2,430	155,966	44,981	1,057	2,406
1773	215,191	272,399	2,183	119,978	39,920	1,476	2,101
1774	187,494	270,096	2,024	108,282	41,350	3,359	2,575
1775	192,452	264,140	2,234	136,782	42,295	7,418	1,953
1776	203,685	272,411	3,155	108,574	50,549	8,035	2,229
1777	168,578	264,181	1,764	84,391	48,502	5,640	1,597
Average,	195,605	267,212	2,280	121,963	44,919	4,040	2,122

* The firſt ſeven years from the commons journals, the laſt fourteen from the parliamentary records of import and export. MS.

The prices of all theſe commodities muſt be aſcertained, in order to diſcover the increaſe or decreaſe of value.

The cuſtom-houſe price of beef is 1l. 6s. 8d. per barrel; but I find that the average price at Waterford, from 1764 to 1776, was 16s. per cwt. or 1l. 12s. the barrel. The cuſtom-houſe rate of butter is 2l. per cwt. but by the ſame authority, I find the real price on the average of the laſt fourteen years to be 2l. 5s. 6d. Candles at the cuſtom-houſe 1l. 15s. per cwt. the real price 2l. 10s. Tallow at the cuſtom-houſe 2l. the true price 2l. 4s. 6d.

Average Price of four and a half hundred Beef per Hundred Weight.

	s.	d.		s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
Year 1756 -	12	3	Year 1764 -	13	6	Year 1771 -	0	16	6
1757 -	11	6	1765 -	14	0	1772 -	0	16	0
1758 -	12	0	1766 -	16	0	1773 -	0	16	6
1759 -	11	6	1767 -	17	0	1774 -	0	18	0
1760 -	12	6	1768 -	13	0	1775 -	0	18	0
1761 -	12	6	1769 -	15	0	1776 -	1	0	0
1762 -	12	0	1770 -	16	0				
1763 -	13	0							

Average of the laſt 13 years, 16s.

Shipping Prices of Butter, Tallow, Candles, and Pork, in Waterford, from the Year 1764 to 1777, both incluſive †.

	Butter per Cwt.	*tallow per Cwt.*	*candles per Cwt.*	*Pork per Barrel.*
	s. s. d.	s. s. d.	s s. d.	s. s. d.
In the year 1764	43 to 36 0	31 to 30 0	41 to 40 0	40 to 39 0
1765	36 - 38 0	39 - 40 0	40 - 41 0	38 - 40 0
1766	38 - 36 0	42 - 41 0	47 - 48 0	38 - 39 0
1767	47 - 38 0	43 - 44 0	49 - 50 0	43 - 45 0
1768	38 - 42 6	44 - 43 0	51 - 52 0	45 - 48 6
1769	42 - 53 0	44 - 45 0	54 - 53 0	42 - 38 0
1770	45 - 48 6	42 - 40 0	54 - 53 0	41 - 45 0
1771	57 - 48 0	44 - 45 0	53 - 54 0	44 - 46 0
1772	54 - 48 0	46 - 52 0	54 - 56 0	53 - 54 0
1773	56 - 54 0	44 - 42 8	51 - 52 0	58 - 60 0
1774	50 - 40 0	40 - 43 0	54 - 55 0	42 - 45 0
1775	53 - 44 0	40 - 41 0	50 - 51 0	45 - 42 0
1776	53 - 43 0	41 - 40 0	50 - 51 0	47 - 49 0
1777	58 - 55 0	41 - 43 0	51 - 52 0	66 - 70 0
Average, -	45 6	44 6	50 0	46 6

Thoſe are the prices as they appeared at the beginning and at the end of the year.

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† *MS. Communicated by Cornelius Bolton, Eſq; member for that city.*

Prices of Ox hides of 112lb. from the Year 1756 to 1776, both incluſive.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
Year 1756	1	7	0	Year 1767	1	6	0
1757	1	7	0	1768	1	8	6
1758	1	2	6	1769	1	11	0
1759	1	1	0	1770	1	8	0
1760	1	0	6	1771	1	4	0
1761	1	2	6	1772	1	1	0
1762	1	2	0	1773	1	3	0
1763	0	19	6	1773	1	10	0
1764	0	18	6	1775	1	13	0
1765	1	4	0	1776	1	14	0
1766	1	5	0				

The real price of hides I was diſappointed in at Corke, muſt therefore take that of the cuſtom-houſe, which is 1l. 13. 4d. tanned, and 1l. 5s. untanned; as more of the latter, I ſhall ſuppoſe 1l. 8s. on an average. Of the cows, bullocks, and horſes, I am quite ignorant, ſhall therefore gueſs them at 5l. on an average. Cheeſe at the cuſtom-houſe 1l. per cwt.

TOTAL EXPORTS OF PASTURAGE.

Firſt Period.	*Per annum.* l.
Export of beef from 1753 to 1759, 162,034 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per,	259,254
Ditto butter, 203,569 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per,	463,119
Ditto hides, 142,033, at 1l. 8s. per,	198,845
Ditto tallow, 22,118 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per,	49,211
Average of the firſt ſeven years,	970,429

Second Period.	
Beef from 1764 to 1770, 200,799 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per,	321,277
Butter, 281,510 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per.	640,434
Candles, 4284 cwt. at 2l. 10s. per,	10,710
Hides, 124,604, at 1l. 8s. per,	174,445
Tallow, 49,976 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per,	111,196
Live ſtock, 2,127, at 5l. per,	10,635
Cheeſe, 3,341 cwt. at 1l. per,	3,341
Average export of the ſecond ſeven years,	1,272,038

Third Period.	
Beef from 1771 to 1777, 195,605 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per,	312,967
Butter, 267,212 cwt. at 2l. 5. 6d. per,	607,907

Candles,

Candles, 2,280 cwt. at 2l. 10s. per, —	5,016
Hides, 121,963, at 1l. 8s. per, —	170,747
Tallow, 44,919 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per, —	99,943
Live ſtock, 4,040, at 5l. per, —	20,200
Cheeſe, 2,122 cwt. at 1l. per, —	2,122
Average export of the laſt ſeven years, —	1,218,902
Second period greater than the firſt by —	301,609
Second period greater than the laſt by —	53,136

The ſecond period being greater than the firſt by near three hundred thouſand pounds, and Ireland having been throughout all three periods on the advance in proſperity, it follows, that the increaſe ſhould have continued, had not ſome other reaſon interfered, and occaſioned, inſtead of a ſimilar increaſe of three hundred thouſand pounds, a falling off of above fifty thouſand. I cannot ſupoſe that the increaſe of tillage did all this; I ſhould ſuppoſe that impoſſible. Moſt of theſe commodities are certainly conſumed at home, which perhaps may account for there being no increaſe; but the increaſe of tillage muſt inevitably have had its ſhare, and it is aſſigning a very moderate one to it, to ſuppoſe the amount no more than this decreaſe of fifty thouſand pounds a year. We come next to ſheep, and the exports which depend on them. The following table ſhews the whole at one view.

	Wool, ſtones.	*Value at 14s.*	*Woolen Yarn.*	*value at 17s 6d.*	*Worſted yarn.*	*Value at 40 s.*	*Total ſtones.*	*Total value.*
		l.	*ſtones.*	l.	*ſtones.*	l.		l.
Year 1764	10,128	7,089	9,991	8,742	139,412	278,824	159,531	294,655
1765	17,316	12,121	13,450	11,768	149,915	299,830	180,681	323,719
1766	21,722	15,205	7,980	6,982	152,122	304,244	181,824	326,431
1767	48,733	34,113	7,553	6,603	151,940	303,880	208,226	344,596
1768	28,521	19,964	11,387	9,963	157,721	315,442	197,629	345,369
1769	3,840	2,688	5,012	4,385	131,364	262,728	138,216	269,801
1770	2,578	1,804	3,833	3,353	117,753	235,506	124,164	240,663
Average,	18,976	13,283	8,458	7,399	142,889	285,779	170,038	306,462
Year 1771	218	152	4,468	3,909	139,378	278,756	144,064	282,817
1772	2,045	1,431	5,947	5,203	115,904	231,808	123,896	238,442
1773	1,839	1,287			94,098	188,196	95,937	189,483
1774	1,007	704			63,920	127,840	64,927	128,544
1775	2,007	1,404			78,896	157,792	80,903	159,196
1776	1,059	741			86,527	173,054	87,586	173,795
1777	1,734	1,213			114,703	229,406	116,437	230,619
Average.	1,415	990	1,459	1,301	99,060	198,121	101,964	200,413§

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§ The quantities taken from the Parliament Records of Import and Export, MS. and the value added.

In the laſt century the quantity of wool, &c. was much larger, indeed it was ſo great, as will appear from the following table, as to form a conſiderable proportion of the kingdom's exports.

	Wool. ſtones.	*Yarn.* ſtones.		*Wool.* ſtones.	*Yarn.* ſtones.
Year 1687	256,592	3,668	Year 1703	360,862	36,873
1697	217,678	13,480	1711	310,136	55,273
1700	336,292	26,617	1712	263,946	60,108
1701	302,812	23,390	1713	171,871	68,548
1702	315,473	43,148	1711	147,153	58,147

Relative to the prices I have charged, the following table is the authority.

Market Prices of Wool in the Fleece, per Stone of ſixteen pounds; and of Bay Yarn, per Pack, containing fourteen great Stones, of eighteen pounds each.

	Wool. per ſt.		*Bay Yarn.* per pack.				*Wool.* per ſt.		*Bay Yarn.* per pack.		
	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.		s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Year 1764	11	0	26	5	0	Year 1772	*	0	28	7	0
1765	10	0	24	13	6	1773	§	0	27	6	0
1766	11	0	25	4	0	1774	14	0	25	4	0
1767	13	0	27	6	0	1775	16	0	29	8	0
1768	13	6	26	5	0	1776	16	6	30	9	0
1769	13	6	26	15	6	1777	17	6	30	9	0
1770	14	0	26	15	6	Average is nearly	14	0	27	4	5
1771	14	0	26	15	6						

Wool is here rated at the market price for combing wool rough in the fleece; but no eſtimate can be formed from this upon what has been exported, the ſmall quantities whereof have been for the moſt part wool upon ſkins or coarſe fells, which muſt have come much lower than the prices herein mentioned.

Woollen yarn for export has not been an article for ſale in Ireland, what has been ſent out was directly from the manufacturer, I preſume in very ſmall quantities, and from the port of Corke only.

Worſted, or bay yarn, is ſent principally to Norwich and Mancheſter, it ſells by the ſkain in Ireland, but in the preceding

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* *Unſettled, but very high.—The pack of bay yarn is taken to contain* 2100 *ſkains.*

§ *Communicated by Mr. Joſhua Pine, in the yarn trade. The cuſtom-houſe price of wool is* 15*s.* *woollen yarn* 17*s.* *and worſted yarn* 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

ing table it is rated by the pack; the coſt at market is only noticed, the neceſſary charges on ſhipping amount to full two per cent. excluſive of commiſſion which is two per cent. more.

Wool, woollen, and bay yarn, are exported by the great ſtone, containing eighteen pounds weight. A licence for exporting muſt be procured from the lord lieutenant, the coſt of which is nearly fourpence halfpenny per ſtone §. From comparing the prices at different periods, exported woollen yarn may pretty ſafely be rated at ſeventen ſhillings and ſixpence per ſtone, of which five ſhillings a ſtone is labour.

	l.
Exported value in the firſt period, ——	307,662
Ditto in the laſt, ——	200,413
Decreaſe, ——	106,049

Whoever recurs to the minutes of the journey, in the counties of Carlow, Tipperary, and Roſcommon, the great ſheepwalks of Ireland, will have no reaſon to be ſurprized at this loſs of one hundred thouſand pounds a year. There are yet other ſubjects ſo connected with the preſent enquiry, that in order to have a clear and diſtinct idea of it, we muſt include in the account. I think it fair to give tillage credit for any increaſe there may be in pork, bacon, lard, hogs, and bread; it is true they do not entirely belong to it, for dairies yield much; but to obviate objections, I will ſuppoſe them totally connected with tillage. The following table includes all theſe articles.

	EXPORTS OF				
	Pork barrels.	*Flitches of bacon.*	*Lard, Cwt.*	*Bread, Cwt.*	*Hogs.*
Year 1753	23,682				
1754	23,684				
1755	20,930				
1756	51,345				
1757	25,071				
1758	28,746				
1759	40,336				
Average,	30,542*				
Year 1764	35,066	226	1,852	8,783	60
1765	44,361	3,592	3,940	7,417	140
1766	50,155	9,640	1,783	8,228	481
1767	34,995	5,778	1,055	6,876	0
1768	43,041	21,275	1,496	6,791	22
1769	40,039	8,156	1,549	6,792	444
1770	43,947	6,500	1,913	5,597	416
Average,	41,649	7,881	1,869	7,197	223
Year 1771	42,519	5,773	1,841	8,006	76
1772	44,713	14,142	2,235	4,575	90
1773	51,112	19,256	2,156	5,827	135
1774	52,328	26,100	2,379	5,090	882
1775	50,367	32,644	1,686	4,012	680
1776	72,714	24,502	3,216	13,302	1,148
1777	72,931	11,462	2,981	29,627	1,358
Average,	55,240	19,125	2,356	10,062	624§

Export of pork per annum, from 1764 to 1770, 41,649 barrels, at 2l. 6s. 6d. per barrel †,		l. 96,833
Bacon, 788 cwt. at 15s. per cwt. ‖	——	5,910
Lard, 1869 cwt. at 1 l. per. cwt. ‖	——	1,869
Bread, 7197 cwt. at 10s. per cwt. ‖	——	3,598
Hogs, 223, at 15s. a piece ‡,	——	166
Average export of ſeven years,	——	108,376

Export

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* *Journals of the Houſe of Commons.* § *Parliament Record of Export and Import, MS.* † *Waterford price.* ‖ *Cuſtom-Houſe price.* ‡ *Suppoſed at that rate for want of authority.*

	l.
Export of pork per annum, from 1771 to 1777, 55,240 barrels, at 2l. 6s. 6d. per barrel, —	128,435
Bacon, 19,125 at 15s. — —	14,343
Lard, 2356 cwt. at 1l. per cwt. —	2,356
Bread, 10,062 cwt. at 10s. per cwt. —	5,031
Hogs, 624, at 15s. a piece — —	468
Average exports of the laſt ſeven years, —	150,631
Increaſe in the laſt ſeven years, —	42,255

The data are now very completely before the reader, from which the merit of this extraordinary meaſure may be eſtimated. I will not aſſert that any cuſtom-houſe accounts are abſolutely authentic; I know the common objections to them, and that there is a foundation for thoſe objections; but the point of conſequence in the preſent enquiry does not depend on their *abſolute*, but comparative accuracy; that is to ſay, if the errors objected to them exiſt, they will be found as great in one period as in another, conſequently their authority is perfectly competent for the compariſon of different ones. Whoever will examine the entries with a minute attention, and compare them with a variety of other circumſtances, will generally be able to diſtinguiſh the ſuſpicious articles. In the preſent enquiry I will venture to aſſert that they ſpeak truth, for they correſpond exactly (as I ſhall by and by ſhew) with many other cauſes which could hardly have failed without a miracle of producing the effects they diſplay. I ſhould further add, that or the greateſt number of the articles inſerted in the preceding tables, there are duties paid on the export which exempt them from the common objection to the entries. But to reaſon againſt the accuracy of ſuch accounts is perfectly uſeleſs, while miniſters in defence of their meaſures, and patriots in oppoſition to them found their arguments on them alone. Whoever attends either the Engliſh or Iriſh houſe of commons will preſently ſee this in a multiplicity of inſtances. All who come to the bar of thoſe houſes depend on theſe accounts; committees of parliament rely on them, and the beſt political writers of every period, from Child and Davenant to Campbell and Whitworth, have agreed in the ſame conduct, knowing the errors to which they are liable; but knowing alſo that there is no better authority, and that they are perfectly competent to compariſons.

Having thus cloſed my authorities, I ſhall now draw them into one view, by ſtating the account of the inland carriage bounty, Debtor and Creditor.

BOUNTY ON THE INLAND CARRIAGE OF CORN.

Dr.	l.	Cr.	l.
To payments of public money on the average of the laſt 7 years, —	47,059	By decreaſe in the import of corn, &c. -	16,907
To decreaſe in the export of beef, butter, &c. — —	53,136	By increaſe in the export of corn, —	3,570
To decreaſe in the export of wool and yarn, —	106,049	By increaſe in the export of pork, hogs, bread, &c. —	42,255
			62,734
		Balance againſt the bounty, —	143,510
	206,244		206,244

Thus far I have laid before the reader a connected chain of ſuch facts as the records of the meaſure, and the parliamentary accounts would permit: it appears as clearly as the teſtimony of figures can ſpeak, that it has had very ill effects upon the general national account. Had the effect we have ſeen taken place of itſelf without any artificial means to aſſiſt it, the friends of the public would perhaps have been well employed to remedy the evil: how abſurd therefore muſt it appear to find that it has been brought about with the utmoſt care and aſſiduity, and at an expence of near fifty thouſand pounds a year of the public money!

It is the intention and effect of this bounty, to turn every local advantage and natural ſupply topſy turvy. We have had for ſeveral years in England, an importation of foreign corn more than proportioned (the kingdoms compared) to any thing the Iriſh knew.† If any one to remedy this, propoſed a bounty on bringing corn by land from Devonſhire and Northumberland, ſo as to give it a preference in the London market to that of Kent and Eſſex, with what contempt would the propoſer and propoſition be treated! the corn counties of Louth and Kildare in the vicinity of Dublin are not to ſupply that market, but it is to eat its bread from Corke and Wexford!

It muſt alſo be brought by land carriage! the abſurdity and folly with which ſuch an idea is pregnant in a country bleſſed with ſuch ports, and ſuch a vaſt extent of coaſt, are ſo glaring, that it is amazing that ſophiſtry could blind the legiſlature to ſuch a degree as to permit a ſecond thought of it. Why not carry the corn in ſhips, as well as tear up all the roads leading to Dublin by cars? Why not increaſe your ſailors inſtead of horſes? Are they not as profitable an animal? If you muſt have an inland bounty, why not to the neareſt port from which it could be carried with the moſt eaſe, and at the leaſt expence to Dublin? This would have anſwered the ſame end. The pretence for the meaſure was the great import of foreign corn at Dublin; this is granting that there was a great demand at Dublin; and can any one ſuppoſe that if the corn was forced to Corke or Wexford, it would not find the way to ſuch a demand as eaſily as from the eaſt of England, which is the only part of that kingdom which abounds with corn for exportation? But the very pretence was a falſhood, for with what regard to truth could it be aſſerted, that Dublin was fed with Engliſh corn before this meaſure took effect, when it appears by the preceding accounts, that the import of the whole kingdom from 1757 to 1763 was only 84,000l. a year, and from 1764 to 1770 no more than 101,604l.? This import account does not diſtinguiſh like the export one, the ports at which the foreign corn was received; if it did, I ſhould in all probability find but a moderate part of this total belonging to Dublin, as it is very well known that in the north there is always a conſiderable import of oatmeal. Granting however the evil, ſtill the plan of remedying it by a land carriage of 130 miles was abſurd to the laſt degree. But ſuppoſe ſo conſiderable a city as Dublin did import foreign corn to a large amount, is it wiſe to think this ſo great a national evil, that all the principles of common policy are to be wounded in order to remedy it? Where is the country to be found that is free from conſiderable importations even of the product of land? Has not Ireland a prodigious export of her ſoil's produce in the effects of paſturage, for which her climate is ſingularly adapted? And while ſhe has that, of what little account is a trifling import of corn to feed her capital city? We have ſeen the undoubted loſs that has accrued to the nation from a violent endeavour to counteract this import, yet the meaſure has only leſſened it to an inconſiderable degree.

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† *In* 1774 *we imported to the value of* 1,023,000*l.*; *and in* 1775 *to that of* 1,265,562.

I was at a mill on Corke harbour above 120 miles from Dublin, and ſaw cars loading for that market on the bounty, with a ſhip laying at the mill quay bound for Dublin, and waiting for a loading; could invention ſuggeſt any ſcheme more prepoſterous than thus to confound at the public expence all the ideas of common practice, and common ſenſe! By means of this meaſure I have been aſſured it has happened, that the flour of Slaine mills has found its way to Carlow, and that of Laughlin Bridge to Drogheda: that is to ſay, Mr. Jebb eats his bread of Captain Mercer's flour, and the latter makes his pudding with Mr. Jebb's aſſiſtance; they live

100 miles aſunder, and the public pays the piper while the flour dances the hay in this manner.

The vaſt difference between the expence of land and water carriage ſhould ever induce the legiſlature, though ſailors were not in queſtion, to encourage the latter rather than the former. From Corke there is paid bounty 5s. 6½d. yet the freight at 10s. a ton is only 6d. The bounty from Laughlin Bridge is 2s. 3½d. yet Captain Mercer pays in ſummer but 1s. 4d. and in winter no more than 1s. 6d. Mr. Moore at Marlefield receives 4s. bounty, but his carriage coſt him only 2s. 6d. in ſummer, and 3s. in winter; hence therefore we find that the bounty more than pays the expence, and that the profit is in proportion to the diſtance, i. e. the abſurdity.

In the year ending September 1777, there were 34,598 barrels of malt brought from Wexford to Dublin by land, receiving 7077l. 4s. 11d. bounty.

34,598 barrels are 51,897 Cwt. which at 6 Cwt. per horſe, would take for one day,	8,649 horſes.		
From Wexford to Dublin and back takes ſeven days, or — —	60,546 horſes.		
One man to two horſes, —	30,273 men.		
	l.	s.	d.
The horſes at 16d. a day, —	4,306	8	0
Men at 9d. a day, — —	1,135	4	9
Seven days men and horſes, —	5,171	12	9
The freight of which to Dublin at 8s. a ton ſhould be, — —	1,037	12	0
Saving by Sea,[‡] —	4,134	0	9

It is therefore *a loſs* of about 80 per cent. *purchaſed* by the bounty.

In proportion as ſailors are leſſened horſes are increaſed. Suppoſe common coaſting veſſels navigated at the rate of one man to twenty tons, it requires ſixty-ſix horſes to draw that burthen, and thirty three men: ſo that for every ſailor loſt, there are above threeſcore of this worſt of all ſtock kept; which is of itſelf an enormous national loſs. If the number of horſes kept at actual work by this bounty, with the mares, colts, &c. to ſupply them, were known, it might probably be found ſo large as to leſſen a little of the veneration with which this meaſure is conſidered in Ireland.

I find that in the ſeſſions of 1769 and 1771, there was a bounty paid on the carriage of corn coaſtways to Dublin. It amounted in the firſt to 3278l.[†], and in the latter to 4973l.[§], the act laſted only thoſe four years. It was an experiment which ſurely ought to have been continued; for if corn is to be forced to Dublin, this moſt certainly is the only rational way of doing it.

[‡] *MS. communicated by Richard Nevill, Eſq; member for Wexford.*

By the following table the amount of this coaſting trade will be ſeen, with and without that bounty.

Corn and Flour brought coaſtways to Dublin from 1758 to 1777.

	Wheat and wheat meal	*Bere and barley.*	*Malt.*	*Flour.*	*Oats and oatmeal.*	*Totals.*
	Barrels.	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*
In the Year 1758	1,424	61,794	2,991	40	22,178	88,427
1759	527	69,326	5,106	37	10,963	85,959
1760	37	75,846	3,812	48	9,273	89,016
1761	43	64,589	3,272	40	9,792	77,736
1762	118	63,980	3,347	52	10,484	77,981
1763	902	66.150	3,505	124	10,762	81,443
1764	1,542	79.710	3.812	161	10,663	95,868
1765	1,611	64,705	3.427	142	10,053	79,938
1766	11,000	39.398	6,610	282	14,276	71,566
1767	8,006	61,346	6,266	1,150	12,006	88,774
					Total,	836,728
1768	2,430	76,684	15,507	39	15,858	110,518
1769	5,669	81,749	14,479	753	21.723	124,373
1770	6,062	68,378	18,522	381	9,130	102.473
1771	5,425	60,530	8,558	232	16.157	90,902
1772	8,130	49,658	18,455	743	14,468	91,454
1773	3,525	48,836	17.106	269	12,117	81,853
1774	4.755	46.724	27,659	76	17,181	96,395
1775	832	49 213	25,165	290	5,615	81,115
1776	1,182	51.778	21,790		6,591	81,341
1777	712	37,511	17,467	630	10,733	67,053[*]
					Total,	927,477
Average of the laſt 7 years,	3,508	49,178	19,457	320	11,837	84,301

[†] *June* 1, 1768. *7th George III. chap.* 24.

4*d. per Cwt. corn of Iriſh growth by water coaſtways to Dublin, ſouthward between Wicklow and the Tuſcar; north, between Drogheda or Carrickfergus.*

5*d. per Cwt. if ſouthward of Tuſcar, or north of Carrickfergus.*

4*d. per Cwt. ſouthward of Cooley point, to Newry, Belfaſt, or Londonderry. Continued to* 24*th June,* 1771.

[§] *MS. account of public premiums, communicated by the Right Hon. John Forſter, member for the county of Louth.*

[*] *MS. communicated by Rich. Nevill, Eſq; member for Wexford.*

With the affiſtance of theſe particulars, united with the quantities on which the inland bounty is paid, given at page 127 and 128, we ſhall be able to ſee the principal part of the conſumption of the city of Dublin.

Brought by Land-carriage Bounty.

	Stones.	*Cwt.*
Year 1762	1,730,869	
1763	1,592,418	
1764	1,622,933	
1765	1,409,726	
1766	1,464,296	
1767	945,289	
1768	2,148,805	
1769	2,608,910	107,986
1770	1,920,978	79,350
1771	1,641,867	87,965
1772	3,146,960	153,139
1773	3,263,199	175,177
1774	3,553,996	190,346
1775	3,211,214	213,885
1776	3,622,076	255,256
1777	3,240,692	317,753
Average of laſt 7 years	3,097,143	199,074

By theſe accounts, Dublin on an average of the laſt ſeven years has conſumed

3,097,143	Stones of corn,
199,074	Cwt. of flour,
84,301	Barrels of both coaſtways.

If the average weight of the corn is 14 ſtone per barrel, the firſt of theſe articles

Will make in barrels, — —	221,224
The 199,074 Cwt. of flour may be called in barrels of wheat, — —	180,000
Add the above barrels coaſtways, —	84,301
Total, —	485,525

To this ſhould be added the import of foreign corn, which is known to be conſiderably more than the export, and it will appear that if there are 150,000 inhabitants in Dublin, they muſt conſume above three barrels each of all ſorts of corn in a year;

a year, which conſidering that the maſs of the people live very much upon potatoes, is a great allowance, and ſuggeſts the idea either that the people are more numerous, or that more money is paid in bounties than there ought to be by the acts, which is probable.

I come now to conſider one of the principal arguments uſed in favour of this meaſure. It is the increaſe of tillage being ſo beneficial to the kingdom. Taken as a general poſition, there may or may not be truth in the aſſertion: I am apt to think rather more ſtreſs is laid on it than there ought to be, and ſome reaſons for that opinion may be ſeen in *Political Arithmetic*, p. 363, &c. But not to enter into the general queſtion at preſent, I have to obſerve two circumſtances upon the ſtate of Ireland; firſt the moiſture of the climate, and ſecondly the ſort of tillage introduced.

That the climate is far moiſter than that of England I have already given various reaſons to conclude; but the amazing tendency of the ſoil to graſs would prove it if any proof was wanting. Let general Cunningham and Mr. Silver Oliver recollect the inſtances they ſhewed me of turnep land, and ſtubble left without ploughing, and yielding the ſucceeding ſummer a full crop of hay. Theſe are ſuch facts as we have not an idea of in England. Nature therefore points out in the cleareſt manner, the application of the ſoil in Ireland moſt ſuitable to the climate. But this moiſture which is ſo advantageous to graſs, is pernicious to corn. The fineſt corn in Europe and the world is uniformly found in the drieſt countries; it is the weight of wheat which points out its goodneſs; which leſſens per meaſure gradually from Barbary to Poland. The wheat of Ireland has no weight compared with that of dry countries; and I have on another occaſion obſerved, that there is not a ſample of a good colour in the whole kingdom. The crops are full of graſs and weeds, even in the beſt management, and the harveſts are ſo wet and tedious as greatly to damage the produce; but at the ſame time, and for the ſame reaſon cattle of all ſorts look well, never failing of a full bite of excellent graſs: the very drieſt ſummers do not affect the verdure as in England.

I do not make theſe obſervations, in order to conclude that tillage will not do in Ireland. I know it may be made to do; but I would leave the vibrations from corn to paſturage, and from paſturage to corn, to the cultivators of the land to guide themſelves as prices and other circumſtances direct, but by no means force an extended tillage at the expence of bounties.

But what is the tillage gained by this meaſure? It is that ſyſtem which formed the agriculture of England two hundred years ago, and forms it yet in the worſt of our common fields, but which all our exertions of encloſing and improving are bent to extirpate. 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat; and then ſpring corn until the ſoil is exhauſted: or elſe, 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat.

3. Spring corn; and then fallow again. In this courſe the ſpring corn goes to horſes, &c. the fallow is a dead loſs, and the whole national gain the crop of wheat; one year in three yields nothing, and one a trifle, whereas the graſs yields a full crop every year. Let it not be imagined, that waſte and deſart tracts, that wanted cultivation, are only turned to this tillage. Nine tenths of the change is in the rich ſheep walks of Roſcommon, Tipperary, Carlow, and Kilkenny. I have already proved this fact; the queſtion therefore is reduced to this: Ought you to turn ſome of the fineſt paſtures in the world, and which in Ireland yielded twenty ſhillings an acre, into the moſt execrable tillage that is to be found on the face of the globe? The compariſon is not between good graſs and good tillage; it is *good* graſs againſt *bad* tillage. The tables I inſerted prove, that Ireland has loſt fifty-three thouſand pounds a year for ſeven years in the produce of cows and bullocks, and one hundred and ſix thouſand pounds in that of ſheep; this is a prodigious loſs, but it is not the whole; there is the loſs of labour on above fifty thouſand ſtones of woollen yarn annually, which is a great drawback from the ſuperior population ſuppoſed, perhaps falſely, to flow from tillage. When theſe circumſtances are therefore well conſidered, the nation will not, I apprehend, be thought to have gained by having converted her rich ſheep walks, which yielded ſo amply in wool, and in the labour which is annexed to wool, into ſo execrable a tillage as is univerſally introduced.

Another circumſtance of this meaſure is, that of ſacrificing all the ports of the kingdom to Dublin; the natural trade, which ought to take a variety of different little channels, proportioned to vicinity, was by this ſyſtem violently drawn away to the capital; a very ill ſituated capital, the increaſe of which, at the expence of the out ports, was by no means a national advantage.

A queſtion naturally ariſes from the premiſes before us; ſhould the bounty be repealed? Abſurd as it is, I am free to declare, I think not at once. Upon the credit of the meaſure great ſums have been laid out in raiſing mills, moſt in ſituations which render them dependant on this forced trade for work. Great loſs would accrue in this to individuals, and the public faith rather injured. The following tables will ſhew that this is not a ſlight conſideration.

The principal mills of Ireland, from June 1773 to June 1774.

		Cwt.
Marlefield,	Stephen Moore, Eſq;	15,382
Slane,	D. Jebb, Eſq; and Co.	11,070
Anner,	Mr. J. Grub,	10,395
Rathnally,	J. Nicholſon, Eſq;	9,870
Lodge,	Richard Mercer, Eſq;	9,826
Kilkarn,	Wade and Williams,	9,496
Carrick,	D. Tighie, Eſq;	6,996
Archer's Grove,	Mr. W. Ratican,	5,503
Lock,	Mr. H. Bready,	5,446
Ballykilcavan,	Doyle and Hoſkins,	5,396
Tyrone,	H. O Brien, Eſq;	4,967
Newtown Barry,	Hon. B. Barry,	4,574

The moſt diſtant mill from Dublin is that of Barnahely, Corke, one hundred and thirty miles. A prodigious number of men and horſes would be thrown at once out of employment, which would have bad effects; and a ſudden diverſion of that ſupply, which has now flowed to Dublin for ſo many years, would certainly have very ill conſequences. The policy therefore to be embraced is this; lower the preſent bounty to the ſimple expence of the carriage, and no more; and counteract it by raiſing the bounty on the carriage of corn coaſtwiſe, until it rivalled and gradually put down the land carriage. Perhaps it might be neceſſary to accompany this meaſure with a land carriage bounty from the mill to the neareſt exporting port, the Dublin bounty would therefore ſtand in order to prevent the evil of a ſudden change, but when the other bounties had got ſo far into effect, as to leſſen the old one conſiderably, then it ſhould be totally diſcontinued; and it would then certainly be proper for the other bounties (having performed their office) to be diſcontinued alſo. The preſent ſyſtem is ſo undoubtedly abſurd, that the rival bounties ſhould be raiſed higher and higher until they had turned the commerce into the natural channel; an expreſſion I am ſenſible implies an apparent abſurdity, for a natural channel of commerce does not want ſuch bounties, but a bad proceeding has made it ſo exceedingly crooked, that a mere repeal, leaving the trade to itſelf, moſt certainly would not do. You muſt undo by art the miſchief which art has done; and the commercial capital in Ireland is too ſmall to bear any violence.

United with the conduct I have ventured to recommend, in caſe the tillage ſyſtem was perſiſted in, it would be very well worth the attention of parliament, to annex ſuch conditions to the payment of any new bounties, as might have the effect of ſecuring a good tillage inſtead of a bad one. If it was found practicable, which I ſhould think it might be, no public money ſhould ever be given for barley, bere, or oats, that did not ſucceed turneps; nor for wheat, or rye, that did not follow beans, clover, or potatoes; by this means the nation would have the ſatisfaction of knowing, that if the plough was introduced in valuable paſture land, it would at leaſt be in a good ſyſtem.

Before I conclude this ſubject, it may be proper to obſerve a circumſtance, which however ill it may be received in England, has, and ought to have this weight in Ireland. The revenue of that kingdom is under ſome diſadvantages which England is free from; the hereditary revenue is claimed *in property* by the crown; a great penſion liſt is charged on it, and much of the amount paid out of the kingdom; there is no free trade to compenſate this; a large part of the military eſtabliſhment is taken out of the kingdom, and of late years the nation has run very much in debt: in ſuch a ſituation of affairs, it is thought wiſe and prudent to ſecure the payment of ſuch a ſum as fifty or ſixty thouſand pounds a year towards the internal improvement of the kingdom. Nobody can deny there being much good ſenſe in this reaſoning; but the argument is applicable to a well founded meaſure, as ſtrongly as it is to an abſurd one; and I ſhould farther obſerve, that if this or any bounty is the means of running the nation ſo much in debt that new taxes are neceſſarily the conſequence, this idea is then viſionary; the people do not ſecure an advantage but a burthen. I cannot here avoid a compariſon of expending ſo large a ſum annually of the public money rationally, or in a meaſure at beſt ſo very doubtful; for indulge the prejudices of gentlemen, and ſuppoſe for a moment, that all the proofs I have given do not amount to an abſolute condemnation, they certainly, even then, give it the moſt dubious complexion that ever meaſure had. But ſuppoſe from the beginning, the money which has been thus advanced, had been given in premiums of ten pounds per acre on all land abſolutely waſte, which was brought in and reclaimed. That ſum I ſhewed on another occaſion, will build excellent dwellings, fence, plant, drain, pare and burn lime, plough, ſow, and complete an acre; the premium would therefore pay the whole, and leave to the proprietor no other buſineſs than to take the trouble of ſeeing the conditions of the premium complied with. The following table will ſhew what the effects of ſuch a premium would have been, calculating the annual produce at four pounds an acre, which is much under what it ought to be. The firſt column ſhews the ſums paid as bounty, the next the number of acres that ſum would have improved at ten pounds per acre, and the third the produce at four pounds per acre, waiting three years at firſt to give time for operations.

	Sums.	Acres.	Produce.
	l.		l.
In the year 1762	4,940	494	
1763	5,096	509	
1764	5,483	548	
1765	6,660	666	8,788
1766	9,212	912	12,436
1767	6,074	607	14,864
1768	13,675	1,367	20,332
1769	25,225	2,522	30,420
1770	18,706	1,870	37,900
1771	19,290	1,929	45,616
1772	39,560	3,956	61,440
1773	44,465	4,446	79,224
1774	49,674	4,967	99,092
1775	53,889	5,388	120,644
1776	60,745	6,074	144,940
1777	61,786	6,178	169,732
		42,433	845,428

From hence we find, that at the end of the year 1777, there would have been 42,433 acres improved in the complete and maſterly manner ten pounds an acre effects, the annual produce of which would be at four pounds an acre, 169,732l. all abſolute and undoubted profit to the kingdom: there would have been received in this manner no leſs than 845,000l. If the lands were thrown as they ought to be into the courſe of — 1. turneps; 2. barley; 3. clover; 4. wheat; and reckoning the barley at ten barrels, and the wheat at ſix, there would now be a produce *every* year of 63,649 barrels of wheat, and 186,082 of barley; and this from only half the land; the other half in turneps and clover would undoubtedly keep ten ſheep the year through, and yield fifty pounds of wool, or in the whole 106,080 ſheep and 33,150 ſtones of wool, with all the employment and population which would reſult from ſuch excellent tillage, building, fencing, manuring, and ſpinning. How different this effect from having in the laſt ſeven years loſt above a million ſterling by the inland carriage; in that period the bounty has juſt trebled; if it goes on ſo it will be one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds a year in ſeven years more, and by that time there will be neither ſheep nor cows left in the kingdom; but ſuppoſe it to ſtand at ſixty thouſand pounds a year, that ſum in ſeven years, applied in a bounty on cultivating waſtes, would improve forty-two thouſand acres, and conſequently be attended with all the effects which would have flowed from a ſimilar number the paſt bounty would have improved. I have now done with this meaſure; my Engliſh reader will, I hope, pardon ſo long a detail, which I ſhould not have gone into had I found the facts known in Ireland, or any juſt concluſions drawn from ideal ones; but in the variety of converſations I have had in that kingdom with all deſcriptions of men, I found not one who was acquainted with the facts upon which the merit of the meaſure could alone be decided. It is for their uſe that I have collected them from very voluminous manuſcripts.

Another meaſure relative to corn, which is in execution in Ireland, is a parliamentary bounty on corn preſerved on ſtands, that is ſtacked on ſtone pillars capped, to prevent the depredations of rats and mice. I have been aſſured that very great abuſes are found in the claims; if theſe are obviated, the meaſure ſeems not objectable in a country where little is done without ſome public encouragement. The following are the payments in conſequence of this bounty.

		l.			l.
In the Year	1766	891	In the Year	1772	5487
	1767	891		1773	5487
	1768	3442		1774	6565
	1769	3442		1775	6565
	1770	4266		1776	6866
	1771	4266		1777	6866*

It would be a proper condition to annex to this bounty, that it be given only to corn preſerved as required, and threſhed on boarded floors; the ſamples of Iriſh wheat are exceedingly damaged by clay floors; an Engliſh miller knows the moment he takes a ſample in his hand if it came off a clay floor, and it is a deduction in the value. The floors ſhould be of deal plank two inches thick, and laid on joiſts two or three feet from the ground, for a free current of air to preſerve them from rotting.

SECTION XIX.

Manufactures.

THE only manufacture of conſiderable importance in Ireland is that of linen, which the Iriſh have for near a century conſidered as the great ſtaple of the kingdom. The hiſtory of it in its earlier periods is very little known; a committee of the houſe of commons, of which Sir Lucius O'Brien was chairman, examined the national records with great attention, in order to diſcover how long they had been in it; all they diſcovered was that by an act paſſed in 1542, the 33d. of Henry 8. linen and woollen yarn were enumerated among the moſt conſiderable branches of trade poſſeſſed by the natives of Ireland in an act made againſt grey merchants foreſtalling. The 11th of Queen Elizabeth the ſame act was revived, and a further law made againſt watering hemp or flax, &c. in rivers. By the 13th of Elizabeth all perſons were prohibited from exporting wool, flax, linen and woollen yarn, except merchants reſiding in cities and boroughs; and by a further act the ſame year, a penalty of 12d. a pound was impoſed on all flax or linen yarn exported, and 8d. more for the uſe of the town exported from. In this laſt act it is recited, that the merchants of Ireland had been exporters of thoſe articles in trade upwards of one hundred years preceding that period: and by many ſubſequent acts, and proclamations during the reigns of Charles I. and II. thoſe manufactures were particularly attended to; from whence it evidently appeared that the kingdom poſſeſſed an export trade in theſe commodities at thoſe early periods. The Earl of Strafford, Lord Lieutenant in Charles I. reign, paſſed ſeveral laws and took various meaſures to encourage this manufacture, inſomuch that he has by ſome authors been ſaid to have eſtabliſhed it originally. At the end of the laſt century, in King William's reign, it aroſe to be an object of conſequence, but not ſingly ſo, for it appears from a variety of records in both kingdoms, that the Iriſh had then a conſiderable woollen manufacture for exportation, which raiſed the jealouſy of the Engliſh manufacturers in that commodity ſo much, that they preſented ſo many petitions to both lords and commons, as to induce thoſe bodies to enter fully into their jealouſies and illiberal views; which occaſioned the famous compact between the two nations, brought on in the following manner.

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* *The reaſon of the ſums being the ſame for two years throughout, is their being returned every ſecond year to parliament.*

Die Jovis 9°. Junii. 1698.

The Earl of *Stamford* reported from the lords committees, (appointed to draw an addreſs to be preſented to his Majeſty, relating to the woollen manufacture in *Ireland*) the following addreſs, *viz.*

"WE the lords ſpiritual and temporal in parliament aſſembled, Do humbly repreſent unto your Majeſty, that the growing manufacture of cloth in *Ireland*, both by the cheapneſs of all ſorts of neceſſaries for life, and goodneſs of materials for making of all manner of cloth, doth invite your ſubjects of England, with their families and ſervants, to leave their habitations to ſettle there, to the increaſe of the woollen manufacture in Ireland, which makes your loyal ſubjects in this kingdom very apprehenſive that the further growth of it may greatly prejudice the ſaid manufacture here; by which the trade of this nation and the value of lands will very much decreaſe, and the numbers of your people be much leſſened here; wherefore we do moſt humbly beſeech your moſt ſacred majeſty, that your majeſty would be pleaſed, in the moſt public and effectual way that may be, to declare to all your ſubjects of Ireland, that the growth and increaſe of the woollen manufacture there hath long, and will ever be looked upon with great jealouſy, by all your ſubjects of this kingdom: and if not timely remedied, may occaſion very ſtrict laws totally to prohibit and ſuppreſs the ſame, and on the other hand, if they turn their induſtry and ſkill to the ſettling and improving the linen manufacture, for which generally the lands of that kingdom are very proper, they ſhall receive all countenance, favour, and protection from your royal influence, for the encouragement and promoting of the ſaid linen manufacture, to all the advantage and profit that kingdom can be capable of."

To which the houſe agreed.

It is ordered by the lords ſpiritual and temporal in parliament aſſembled, That the lords with white ſtaves do humbly attend his majeſty with the addreſs of this houſe, concerning the woollen manufacture in Ireland.

Die Veneris 10° *Junij* 1698°.

The Lord Steward reported his Majeſty's anſwer to the addreſs, to this effect, *viz.*

"THAT his Majeſty will take care to do what their lordſhips have deſired.

ASHLEY COWPER.

Cler. Parliamentor."

Jovis 30 *Die Junii* 1698.

"*Moſt Gracious Sovereign,*

"WE your majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the commons in parliament aſſembled, being very ſenſible that the wealth and power of this kingdom do, in a great meaſure, depend on the preſerving the woollen manufacture as much as poſſible entire to this realm, think it becomes us, like our anceſtors, to be jealous of the eſtabliſhment and increaſe thereof elſewhere; and to uſe our utmoſt endeavours to prevent it.

"And therefore we cannot without trouble obſerve, that Ireland is dependant on, and protected by England in the enjoyment of all they have; and which is ſo proper for the linen manufacture, the eſtabliſhment and growth of which there would be ſo enriching to themſelves, and ſo profitable to England; ſhould, of late, apply itſelf to the woollen manufacture, to the great prejudice of the trade of this kingdom; and ſo unwillingly promote the linen trade, which would benefit both them and us.

"The conſequence whereof will neceſſitate your parliament of England to interpoſe to prevent the miſchief that threatens us, unleſs your majeſty, by your authority and great wiſdom, ſhall find means to ſecure the trade of England, by making your ſubjects of Ireland to purſue the joint intereſt of both kingdoms.

"And we do moſt humbly implore your majeſty's protection and favour in this matter; and that you will make it your royal care, and enjoin all thoſe you employ in Ireland to make it their care, and uſe their utmoſt diligence, to hinder the exportation of wool from Ireland, except to be imported hither, and for the diſcouraging the woollen manufactures, and encouraging the linen manufactures in Ireland, to which we ſhall always be ready to give our utmoſt aſſiſtance."

Reſolved, That the ſaid addreſs be preſented to his majeſty by the whole houſe.

Sabbati. 2. die Julii.

HIS MAJESTY'S ANSWER.

"GENTLEMEN,

"I ſhall do all that in me lies to diſcourage the woollen manufacture in Ireland, and to encourage the linen manufacture there; and to promote the trade of England."

Thurſday 27th September, 1698.

Part of the Lords Juſtices Speech.

"AMONGST theſe bills there is one for the encouragement of the linen and hempen manufactures: at our firſt meeting we recommended to you that matter, and we have now endeavoured to render that bill practicable and uſeful for that effect, and as ſuch we now recommend it to you. The ſettlement of this manufacture will contribute much to people the country, and will be found much more advantageous to this kingdom than the woollen manufacture, which being the ſettled ſtaple trade of England, from whence all foreign markets are ſupplied, can never be encouraged here for that purpoſe; whereas the linen and hempen manufactures will not only be encouraged, as conſiſtent with the trade of England, but will render the trade of this kingdom both uſeful and neceſſary to England."

The Commons of IRELAND returned the following Anſwer to the ſpeech from the throne.

"WE pray leave to aſſure your excellencies, that we ſhall heartily endeavour to eſtabliſh a linen and hempen manufacture here, and to render the ſame uſeful to England, as well as advantageous to this kingdom, and that we hope to find ſuch a temperament in reſpect to the woollen trade here, that the ſame may not be injurious to England."

And they paſſed a law that ſeſſion, commencing the 25th of March, 1699, leaving 4s. additional duty on every 20s. value of broad-cloth exported out of Ireland, and 2s. on every 20s. value of ſerges, baize, kerſeys, ſtuffs, or any other ſort of new drapery made of wool or mixed with wool, (frizes only excepted) which was in effect a prohibition. And in the ſame ſeſſion a law was paſſed in England, reſtraining Ireland from exporting thoſe woollen manufactures, including frize, to any other parts except to England and Wales.

The addreſſes of the two houſes to the king carry the cleareſt evidence of their ſource, the jealouſy of merchants and manufacturers; I might add their *ignorance* too, they are dictated upon the narrow idea that the proſperity of the woollen fabrics of Ireland was inconſiſtent with the welfare of thoſe of England; it would at preſent be fortunate for both kingdoms if theſe errors had been confined to the laſt century. There is an equal mixture alſo of falſhood in the repreſentations; for they aſſert that the cheapneſs of neceſſaries in Ireland drew from England the woollen manufacturers, but they forgot the cheapneſs of labour in Ireland, to which no workman in the world ever yet emigrated. The Iriſh were engaged in various ſlight fabrics not made in England; but had they been employed on broad cloth for exportation, the Engliſh manufacture would well have bore it; they did at that time and afterwards bear a rapid encreaſe of the French fabrics, and yet flouriſhed themſelves. We have had ſo long an experience of markets increaſing with induſtry and inventions, that the time ought to have come long ago for viewing competitors without the eye of jealouſy.

The memoirs of the time, as well as the expreſſion in the above tranſaction, evidently prove, that it was underſtood by both kingdoms to be a ſort of compact, that if Ireland gave up her woollen manufacture, that of linen ſhould be left to her under every encouragement. I have however myſelf heard it in the Britiſh parliament *denied* to have been any compact; but ſimply a promiſe of encouragement, not precluding a like or greater encouragement to the Britiſh linens. This is certainly an error, for ſo underſtood, what is the meaning of the *ample encouragements promiſed* by the Britiſh parliament? They could not mean internal encouragement or regulation, for they had nothing to do with either: it could ſimply mean, as the purport of the words evidently ſhew, that they would enter into no meaſures which ſhould ſet up a linen manufacture to rival the Iriſh. That woollens ſhould be conſidered and encouraged as the ſtaple of England, and linens as that of Ireland: it muſt mean this or it meant nothing. That the Iriſh underſtood it ſo cannot be doubted for a moment; for what did they in conſequence? They were in poſſeſſion of a flouriſhing woollen manufacture, which they actually put down and crippled by prohibiting exportation. Let me aſk thoſe who aſſert there was no compact, why they did this? it was their own act. Did they cut their own throats without either reward or promiſe of reward? common ſenſe tells us they did this under a perfect conviction, that they ſhould receive ample encouragement from England in their linen trade: but what moonſhine would ſuch encouragement prove if England, departing from the letter and ſpirit of that compact, had encouraged her own linen manufacture to rival the Iriſh, after the Iriſh had deſtroyed their woollen fabrics to encourage thoſe of England? Yet we did this in direct breach of the whole tranſaction, for the 23d of George II. laid a tax on ſail cloth made of Iriſh hemp. Bounties alſo have been given in England without extending fully to Iriſh linens. Checked, ſtriped, printed, painted, ſtained, or dyed linens of Iriſh manufacture are not allowed to be imported into Britain. In which, and in other articles, we have done every thing poſſible to extend and increaſe our own linen manufacture, to rival that of Ireland.

I admit readily, that the apprehenſions of the Iriſh at the progreſs of Britiſh linens are in the ſpirit of commercial jealouſy, as well as our violence in relation to their woollens. But with this great difference; we forced them to put down a manufacture they were actually in poſſeſſion of; and we being the controuling power, do not leave them that freedom of market which we poſſeſs ourſelves, points which neceſſarily place the two nations in this reſpect upon very different footings. Give them as they ought to have, a free woollen trade, and they will then have no objection to any meaſures for the encouragement of our linens which do not abſolutely exclude theirs.

The following table will ſhew the progreſs of their linen manufacture through the preſent century.

An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH, and LINEN-YARN, from IRELAND.

	Linen Cloth.	*Yarn.*	*Value cloth at 1 s. 3 d. per yard.*	*Value yarn at 6 l. per 120 lb.*	*Total Value.*
	Yards.	Cwt.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1700			14,112		
1710	1,688,574	7,975	105,537	47,853	153,389
1711	1,254,815	7,321	78,425	43,928	122,354
1712	1,376,122	7,916	86,007	47,496	133,504
1713	1,819,816	11,802	113,738	70,815	184,554
1714	2,188,272	15,078	155,002	158,326	313,329
1715	2,153,120	13,931	107,650	146,283	253,939
1716	2,188,105	10,747	109,405	112,847	222,252
1717	2,437,265	18,052	132,018	189,555	321,574
1718	2,247,375	14,050	121,732	147,527	269,260
1719	2,359,352	15,070	127,798	158,239	286,038
1720	2,437,984	15,722	121,899	94,334	216,233
1721	2,520,701	14,696	126,035	88,178	214,213
1722	3,419,994	14,754	170,995	88,524	259,519
1723	4,378,545	15,672	218,927	94,637	312,964
1724	3,879,170	14,594	193,958	87,564	281,522
1725	3,864,987	13,701	193,249	82,207	275,457
1726	4,368,395	17,507	218,419	105,042	323,462
1727	4,768,889	17,287	238,444	103,720	342,171
1728	4,692,764	11,450	234,638	62,975	297,613
1729	3.927,918	11,855	196,395	65,206	261,602
1730	4,136,203	10,088	206,810	55,485	262,295
1731	3,775,830	13,746	220,256	84,194	304,451
1732	3,792,551	15,343	237,034	92,061	309,096
1733	4,777,076	13,357	298,567	82,372	380,939
1734	5,451,758	18,122	340,734	108,733	449,468
1735	6,761,151	15,900	422,571	94,405	517,977
1736	6,508,151	14,743	406,759	88,463	495,222
1737	6,138,785	14,695	409,252	18,173	497,325
1738	5,175,744	15,945	345,049	95,674	440,724
1739	5,962,316	18,200	397,487	129,202	506,690
1740	6,627,771	18,542	441,851	111,256	553,108
1741	7,207,741	21,656	480,516	129,941	610,457
1742	7,074,168	16,330	471,611	97,984	569,595
1743	6,058,041	14,169	403,869	85,016	488.885
1744	6,124,892	18,011	459,366	108,066	567,432
1745	7,171,963	22,066	537,897	132,398	670,295
1746	6,820,786	27,741	511,588	166,451	678,010
1747	9,633,884	28,910	722,541	173,464	896,005
1748	8,692,671	19,418	543,291	116,508	659.800
1749	9,504,338	21,694	594,021	130,164	724,185

An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH, and LINEN-YARN, from Ireland. Continued.

	Linen Cloth.	*Yarn.*	*Value Cloth at 1 s. 3 d. per yard.*	*Value yarn at 6l. per C. 120. lb.*	*Total value*
	Yards.	*Cwt.*	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1750	11,200,460	22,373	653.360	134,238	787,598
1751	12,891,318	23,743	751,993	142,459	894,452
1752	10,656,003	23,407	621.600	140,442	762,042
1753	10,411,787	23.238	694,119	139,428	839,018
1754	12,090,903	22,594	806,060	135,567	941,732
1755	13.379,733	27.948	891,982	167,692	1,059,675
1756	11,944,328	26.997	796,288	161,982	1,046,841
Average,	11,796,361	24,328	745.057	145,972	904,479
In the year 1757	15,508,709	31,078	1,033,913	186.473	1,220,387
1758	14.982,557	31,995	998,837	191,970	1,190,807
1759	14,093,431	27.571	939,562	165,426	1,104,988
1760	13,375,456	31,042	891,697	186,254	1,077,951
1761	12,048,881	39,699	803,251	238,198	1,041,457
1762	15,559,676	35,950	1,037,311	215,702	1,253,014
1763	16,013,105	34,468	1,067,540	206,808	1,274,348
Average,	14.511,973	33,114	967,445	198,690	1,166,136
In the year 1764	15,201,081	31,715	1,006,738	190,292	1,197,031
1765	14.355,205	26,127	957,013	156,762	1,233,402
1766	17,892,192	35,018	1,192,806	210,109	1,552,017
1767	20,148,170	30,274	1,343,211	181,648	1,692,761
1768	18,490,019	32,590	1,232,667	195,542	1,382,294
1769	17,790,705	37,037	1,186 047	222,223	1,556,525
1770	20,560,754	33.417	1,370,716	200,502	1,742,559
Average,	17,776,862	32,311	1,184.171	193,868	1,379,512
In the year 1771	25,376,808	34,166	1,691,787	204,996	2,108,257
1772	20,599.178	32,441	1,544,938	194,650	1,739,588
1773	18,450,700	28,078	1,383.802	168,473	1,552,276
1774	16.916,674	29,194	1,127.777	174,864	1,302,641
1775	20,205,087	30,598	1,346,985	183,588	1,530,573
1776	20,502,587	36,152	1,306,838	216,912	1,583,750
1777	19,714,638	29,698	1,314.308	178,188	1,492,496
Average,	20,252,239	31,475	1,390,919	188,810	1,615,654
	Average of 30 years ſince 1748			——	1,228,148
	Average of 30 years before,			——	417,600

Mr. Henry Archdall, in the year 1771, aſſerted before a committee of the houſe of commons, that Ireland manufactrued for

	l.
Exportation,	1,541,200
And for home conſumption,	658,906
	* 2,200,106

The latter article muſt be a mere gueſs; the firſt we find contradicted in the preceding table, unleſs he meant cloth only.

This ample table calls for ſeveral obſervations. It firſt appears that the manufacture has gone on in a regular increaſe, until it has arrived in the laſt ſeven years to be an object of prodigious conſequence. The averages of each period of ſeven years are of particular importance; as there is one political leſſon to be deduced from them which may be of great uſe hereafter: they prove in the cleareſt manner that no judgment is ever to be formed of the ſtate of the manufacture from one or two years, but on the contrary from ſeven years alone. In 1774 it appears that the export was lower than it had been for nine years before, and we very well recollect the noiſe which this fall made in England. I was repeatedly in the gallery of the Engliſh houſe of commons when they ſat in a committee for months together upon the ſtate of the linen trade, and from the evidence I heard at the bar I thought Ireland was ſinking to nothing, and that all her fabrics were tumbling to pieces: the aſſertion of the linen fabrics declining *a third* was repeated violently, and it was very true. But they drew this compariſon from 1771, when we find from the preceding table that it was at it's zenith, to appearance a very unnatural one, for it roſe at once five millions of yards which was unparalleled. It was ridiculous to draw a ſudden ſtart into precedent, for what manufacture in the world but experiences moments of uncommon proſperity, the continuance of which is never to be expected; this fall of a third therefore though true *in fact* was utterly falſe *in argument*. In truth the fall was exceedingly trivial, for the only compariſon that ought to have been made was with the average of the preceding ſeven years, the decline then would have appeared only ſeven or eight hundred thouſand yards, that is, not a *twentieth* inſtead of a *third*. But becauſe the trade had run to a moſt extraordinary height in 1771, the manufacturers and merchants felt the fall the more, and were outrageouſly clamorous becauſe every year was not a jubilee one. If ſuch were to be the conſequences of an unuſual demand, miniſters and legiſlatures would have reaſon to curſe any extraordinary proſperity, and to prevent it if they could, under the conviction that the graſping avarice of commercial folly, would be growling and dunning them with complaints when the trade returned to its uſual and natural courſe. In the year 1773 and 4, all Ireland was undone; the linen manufacture was to be at an end; but lo! at the end of the period of ſeven years upon examining the average it is found to be in as great a ſtate of increaſe as ever known before; for the four periods have all the ſame riſe one above another of three millions of yards each: conſequently I ſay, upon the evidence of the cleareſt facts that there has been no *declenſion* but an INCREASE. And I ſhall draw this manifeſt concluſion from it to diſbelieve commercial complaints as long as I exiſt, and put no credit in that ſort of proof which is carried to parliament in ſupport of ſuch complaints. Falſhood and impoſition I am confident find their way to the bar of a houſe, and I do not think it much for the credit of thoſe who ſupported the Iriſh complaints at the period above mentioned, that I ſhould find in copying at Dublin part of this table from the parliamentary record of imports and exports, the export of the year 1775 eraſed; the only conſiderable eraſure there is in thoſe volumes, the total of particulars makes 19,447,250 yards, but it now ſtands written over that eraſure 20,205,087. It is eaſily accounted for; if the trade had been known to have experienced ſo immediate a revival, half their arguments would have had no weight, it might therefore be convenient to ſink the truth. If it was merely accidental in the clerk I can only ſay it was at a moſt unfortunate *time* and *ſubject**.

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* *Journals of the commons, vol.* 16. *page* 368.

The following table will ſhew that England is the market for eighteen twentieths of the total Iriſh exportation.

QUANTITIES of IRISH LINENS imported into ENGLAND from Chriſtmas 1756, to Chriſtmas 1773.

	Yards.
In the year 1757 —	11,925,290
1758 —	14,383,248
1759 —	12,793,412
1760 —	13,311,674
1761 —	13,354,448
	65,768,072 or per Annum 13,153,614.

	Yards.
In the year 1762 —	13,476,366
1763 —	13,110,858
1764 —	13,187,109
1765 —	14,757,353
1766 —	17,941,229
	72,472,915 or per annum 14,494,583.

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* *In the woollen manafacture of England the ſame ſpirit of complaint and falſhood has at different times peſtered both parliament and the public. See this point diſcuſſed in my* Political Arithmetic, *page* 152. † *Subſtance of Mr. Glover's evidence before the houſe of commons* 1774, *page* 60.

	Yards.
In the year 1767 —	16,500,755
1768 —	15,249,248
1769 —	16,496,271
1770 —	18,195,087
1771 —	20,622,217
	87,063,578 or per annum 17,612,715.
In the year 1772 — —	19,171,771.
1773 — —	17,896,994.

The following table will ſhew the importation of the raw material for this fabric.

IMPORT of FLAX, HEMP, and FLAX-SEED, into IRELAND.

	Hogſheads † of Flax-ſeed.	Value.	Undreſſed flax. §	Value.	Undreſſed. hemp. ‡	Value.	Total value.
		l.	Cwt.	l.	Cwt.	l.	l.
Year 1764	32,168	112,588	53,870	129,284	13,195	21,111	262,983
1765	27,769	97,191	12,871	30,870	23,951	38,321	166,382
1766	31,040	108,640	8,047	19,312	14,140	22,624	150,576
1767	43,076	150,766	7,397	17,752	7,780	12,448	180,966
1768	19,161	67,063	9,908	23,779	14,531	23,249	114,091
1769	50,022	175,077	7,690	18,456	12,263	19,620	213,153
1770	19,432	68,012	9,276	22,262	27,842	44,547	134,821
Average,	31,809	111,333	15,608	37,387	16,243	25,988	174,710
Year 1771	45,089	157,811	6,318	15,163	9,131	14,609	187,583
1772	24,230	84,203	6,054	14,529	13,685	21,895	121,229
1773	39,750	139,125	10,551	25,322	9,670	15,472	179,919
1774	25,375	88,812	8,677	20,824	22,361	35,777	145,413
1775	40,218	140,763	10,153	24,367	14,264	22,822	187,952
1776	24,077 ‖	84,269	5,295	12,706	13,602	21,763	118,740
1777	32,613 *	114,145	18,212	43,708	19,419	31,069	188,922
Average,	33,050	115,675	9,322	22,374	14,590	23,343	161,394

This account is favourable to the ſtate of the manufacture; for the increaſed import of flax-ſeed in the ſecond period, implies that the country ſupplied herſelf with more flax of her own producing, which accounts for the falling off in the import of undreſſed flax: the perſons who have ſtudied the manufacture,

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† *At* 3*l.* 10*s. a hogſhead from* 28*s. to* 6*l.* § *At* 48*s. from* 45*l. to* 52*l. per ton.* ‡ *At* 32*s. from* 24*l. to* 40*l. per ton, average* 32*l.* ‖ *From the plantations of this* 12,441. * *Ditto,* 4,512.

nufacture in all its branches with the moſt attention, agree there is no greater improvement to be wiſhed for, than the raiſing the flax inſtead of importing foreign. It is much to be lamented, that the flax-huſbandry has not made a greater progreſs in the kingdom; for the profit of it is very great. The minutes of the tour furniſh the following particulars:

Places.	*Expences.*			*Stones ſcutched*	*At per ſtone.*		*Value.*		
	l.	s.	d.		s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Ardmagh,	6	6	4	30	4	2	6	5	0
Near ditto,				48	8	0	19	4	0
Mahon,	4	13	4	25	8	0	10	0	0
Warrenſtown,	13	3	10	40	7	6	15	0	0
Liſburne to Belfaſt,	9	4	2	56	9	4	26	2	8
Ards,	9	0	0						
Shaen Caſtle,	8	4	6	54	7	10	21	3	0
Leſly Hill,	8	2	4	16					
Newtown Limavaddy,	9	3	0	28	5	4	7	9	4
Inniſhoen,	5	14	0						
Clonleigh,				30					
Florence Court,	9	7	4				18	1	2
Ballymoat,	12	7	0						
Mercra,				40					
Averages,	8	13	2	36	7	2	15	8	1

From hence we find, that the profit is near ſeven pounds an acre, clear, after paying large expences, and that on the Cunningham acre.

There is a notion common in the north of Ireland, which I ſhould ſuppoſe muſt be very prejudicial to the quality as well as the quantity of flax produced; it is, that rich land will not do for it, and that the ſoil ſhould be pretty much exhauſted by repeated crops of oats, in order to reduce it to a proper ſtate for flax. The conſequence of this is, as I every where ſaw full crops of weeds, and of poor half-ſtarved flax: the idea is abſurd; there is no land in the north of Ireland that I ſaw too rich for it. A very rich ſoil ſown thin produces a branching harſh flax, but if very clear of weeds, and ſown thick for the ſtems to draw each other up, the crop will be in goodneſs, and quantity proportioned to the richneſs of the land. A poor exhauſted ſoil cannot produce a flax of a ſtrong good ſtaple; it is the nouriſhment it receives from the fertility of the land which fills the plant with oil, and bleachers very well know that the *oil* is the *ſtrength* of the ſtaple, and unfortunately it is, that bleaching cannot be performed without an exhalation of this oil, and conſequent weakneſs. But though it is neceſſary for colour to exhale a portion of the oil, flax that never had but little from the poverty of the ſoil it grew in, is of little worth, and will not bear the operation of bleaching like the other. Potatoes kept very clean under the plough are an excellent preparation for flax; and turneps, well hoed, the ſame.

The following are the EARNINGS of the MANUFACTURERS in LINEN FABRICS.

	Weavers.				*Women.*	
Places.	*Fine linen.*		*Courſe lin.*		*Spin.*	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	d.	f.
Market Hill,	1	6	1	2	3	0
Ardmagh,			1	2		
Mahon,			1	0	3	2
Lurgan,	1	4	1	0	3	0
Warrenſtown,	1	6	1	1	3	0
Inniſhoen,					4	0
Mount Charles,					2	2
Caſtle Caldwell,					2	2
Inniſkilling,					4	0
Belleiſle,			1	3	4	0
Florence Court,				10	3	0
Farnham,					4	0
Strokeſtown,					3	2
Ballymoat,					3	2
Mercra,					2	2
Sortland,					3	0
Weſtport,			2	0	3	0
Annſgrove,					2	0
Averages,	1	5	1	0½	3	1

Theſe earnings are from double to near treble thoſe of huſbandry labour throughout the kingdom, and yet complaints of poverty are infinitely more common among theſe people than in thoſe parts of the kingdom that have no ſhare of the manufacture. It is ſo in all countries; and ought to prevent too aſſiduous an attention to ſuch complaints. Thoſe who for the ſake of great earnings will become weavers, muſt do it under the knowledge that they embrace or continue in a life not of the ſame regular tenour with the loweſt ſpecies of labourers. If they will not be more prudent and ſaving, they ought not to clamour and expect the public to turn things topſy turvy to feed them, who, with any degree of attention, might have ſupported themſelves much better than another claſs that never complains at all.

Having thus endeavoured to ſhew the riſe, progreſs, and preſent amount of this manufacture, it will be neceſſary to lay before the reader ſome account of the ſums of public money which have, according to the faſhion of Ireland, been expended in its encouragement. This is not ſo eaſy to do fully and accurately as I could wiſh, but the following papers are the beſt authorities I could find,

An account of the nett produce of thed uties appropriated to the uſe of the hempen and linen manufactures from their commencement, and alſo the bounties from parliament.

	Nett duties.	*Bounties.*		*Nett duties.*	*Bounties.*
	l.	l.		l.	l.
In the year 1721		2,500	In the year 1758	9,772	
1723		5,500	1759	8,933	8,000
1725		4,000	1760	6,581	
1727		4,000	1761	11,841	8,000
1729		4,000	1762	14,014	
			1763	15,064	8,000
1731	5,637	4,000	1764	14,998	
1733	6.328	8,000	1765	15,820	8,000
1734	5,314		1766	18,634	
1735	6,748	8,000	1767	12.717	8.000
1736	9,181		1768	10,414	
1737	8,676	8,000	1769	† 2,181	8,000
1738	10,623		1770	1,635	
1739	10.087	8,000	1771	861	8,000
1740	7,894		1772	1,348	
1741	13,180	8,540	1773	1,700	8,000
1742	12,561		1774	580	
1743	13,770	8,000	1775	1,387	8,000
1744	14,844				
1745	18,066	8,000	Totals, - -	453,204	184,540
1746	15,046		Nett tea duties for 7 years, ending 1775, - -	72,500	184,540
1747	17,922	8,000			
1748	12.657				
1749	18,335	8,000			
1750	17,813			710,244	
1751	12,477	8,000			
1752	17,175		Average of the laſt 7 years duties	1,385	
1753	12,231	8,000			
1754	12,884		Ditto of tea duties,	10,357	
1755	14,292	8,000			
1756	12,239	*4,000	Together, -	11,742	
1757	1,722	8,000			

The tea duties were granted for the uſe of this manufacture. But that this account is not complete appears by another ‡ to the following effect.

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* By King's Letter.

† Here the tea duties were ſeparated, and produced in ¼ year to L. D. 12,500 l. and 10,000 l. a year each year after.

‡ Commons journals, vol. 17. p. 263.

An account of the ſeveral ſums of money for which the vice-treaſurers have claimed credit, as being paid by them for the uſe of the hempen and linen manufactures, from the 25th of March 1700, to the 25th of March 1775, diſtinguiſhing each year, returned to the hon. houſe of commons purſuant to their order, November 25, 1775.

	l.		l.		l.
In the year 1700	100	In the year 1728	5,154	In the year 1754	17,402
1701	372	1729	11,340	1755	16,886
1702	213	1730	10,824	1756	12,762
1703	430	1731	13,711	1757	15,762
1705	3,384	1732	5,149	1758	13,792
1706	1,783	1733	7,422	1759	7,298
1707	1,498	1734	5,670	1760	16,247
1708	1,475	1735	13,103	1761	9,154
1709	1,180	1736	14,785	1762	32,865
1710	1,180	1737	12,927	1763	19,463
1711	1,770	1738	14,931	1764	22,041
1712	2,023	1739	13,085	1765	21,041
1713	1,596	1740	16,973	1766	16,824
1714	789	1741	15,484	1767	15,474
1715	1,597	1742	20,085	1768	17,061
1716	1,641	1743	17,917	1769	16,216
1717	3,981	1744	23,587	1770	19,030
1718	3,337	1745	18,948	1771	15,030
1719	4,784	1746	9,154	1772	12,546
1720	3,369	1747	11,216	1773	12,206
1721	4,421	1748	15,371	1774	16,030
1722	5,173	1749	20,979	1775	15,459
1723	3,439	1750	31,109	1776	14,751
1724	5,678	1751	16,680	1777	15,102
1725	6,290	1752	22,556		
1726	7,779	1753	16,886	Total,	847504
1727	6,701				
			Average of the laſt 7 years,		14,446

The expenditure of this money is under the direction of the linen board, upon a ſimilar plan as the navigation board explained above. Their mode of applying it will be ſeen by the following account.

Diſburſements of the Linen Truſtees, from 1757, to 1772.

	l.
Spinning ſchools, — — —	3,634
Flax ſhops, —— ——	2,197
Flax dreſſers, —— ——	4,145
Bleachers, —— ——	14,323
Contractors, —— ——	5,720
Yarn inſpectors, — — —	654
Manufacturers, — — —	55,013
Utenſils, —— —— ——	69,445
Raiſing flax, — — —	5,101

Flaxſeed

	l.
Flax-ſeed mixed with potatoes, —	2,818
Fraudulent lapped linens, —	748
Buildings and repairs, — —	25,936
Clerks, &c. at linen office, —	11,728
Ditto, linen and yarn halls, — —	7,642
Inſpectors, itinerant men, and reed makers, —	7,723
Incidental charges, — —	11,773
In ſixteen years, —	225,606
Or per annum, —	14,100[*]

Subſequent to 1698 Ireland, at *an enormous expence* to the public, made a progreſs in the linen manufacture, &c[†].

The truſtees of the linen board expended near half a million of money to extend and promote the linen manufacture before the year 1750[‡].

But theſe accounts do not yet ſhew the full amount of public money which has been granted for the uſe of this great manufacture; to have this complete we muſt take in the bounties on the import of ſeed, and on the export of canvas and ſail cloth, which have been as follow:

Years, ending Lady-day.	*Import hemp and flaxſeed.*	*Export canvas and ſail-cloth.*	*Years, ending Lady-day.*	*Import hemp and flaxſeed.*	*Export canvas and ſail-cloth.*
	l.	l.		l.	l.
1731	1,211	1,446	1755	10,500	[§] 731
1733	2,120	1,207	1757	9,873	
1735	2,658	1,301	1759	11,058	
1737	5,004	1,492	1761	11,273	
1739	6,792	3,664	1763	9,187	
1741	6,112	3,517	1765	11,464	
1743	5,911	1,540	1767	15.894	
1745	7,536	1,367	1769	16,810	
1747	4,482	2,283	1771	16,062	
1749	7,939	3,416	1773	16,279	
1751	8,027	4,802	1775	14,674	
1753	11,481	1,909	1777	14,479	
Totals,	—			226,834	28,682[‖]
Average of the laſt ſeven years.	—			15,094	

By

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[*] *Journal of the Houſe of Commons, vol. xv. p.* 375.

[†] *Report of Sir Lucius O'Brien's committee journals, vol. xv. p.* 396.

[‡] *Ibid. p.* 400.

[§] *This year this bounty ceaſed.*

[‖] *Extracted from an account of national premiums, MS. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Forſter.*

	l.
By one of theſe accounts the annual net produce of thoſe duties appropriated to this manufacture, on an average of the laſt 7 years, is —	11,742
But by the other, the treaſury charges the manufacture on the ſame average with, —	14,446
Difference, —— ——	2,704

The fact however is, that the larger of theſe ſums is paid to this purpoſe, and the account of the linen boards diſburſement amounts to 14,100l.

The total annual ſums at preſent applied appear to be theſe:

	l.
Produce of duties appropriated to the purpoſe —	14,446
Parliamentary bounty, ——	4,000
Bounty on the import of flax-ſeed, ——	15,094
Total per annum, ——	33,540

And that the total ſums thus applied ſince the year 1700 have been:

	l.
Paid by the vice treaſurers, ——	847,504
Parliamentary bounty, ——	192,540
Bounty on flax import, ——	226,834
Ditto on export of canvas, ——	28,682
Total, ——	1,295,560

The moſt careleſs obſerver cannot help remarking, the great amount of this total; and muſt think that an annual grant of 33,000l. a year in ſupport of a manufacture which works to the annual amount of two millions ſterling, an extraordinary meaſure. I muſt be free to own, that I cannot, upon any principles, ſee the propriety of it. They cannot have done any conſiderable miſchief I grant, but if they do no good there is a great evil in the miſapplication of ſo much money. That a manufacture in its very cradle, if it happens to be of a ſickly growth, may be benefited by bounties and premiums, is certain; but that even in ſuch a caſe it is wiſe to give them, I doubt, very much; for fabrics being ſickly in their growth is a reaſon againſt encouraging them. The truly valuable manufactures, ſuch as linen in Ireland, wool and hardware in England, and ſilk in France, want no help but a demand for their produce. Ireland has always hitherto had a demand for her linens, and having ſo much longer than the beginning of this century been in the trade, would naturally increaſe it in proportion to the demand; and ſhe would have done that though no linen board nor bounties had exiſted. It is contrary to all the principles of commerce to ſuppoſe, that ſuch an increaſing manufacture as this has been, would want flax or flax-ſeed without bounties on the import; or that manufacturers in it would not earn their bread without a preſent of 55,000l. The only inſtance in which theſe bounties would certainly have a conſiderable effect is, the caſe of expenſive machines; the firſt introduction of which are difficult to individuals in a poor country. But this article, in its fulleſt extent, would have demanded but a ſmall ſum in the linen trade, for it by no means goes to common ſpinning wheels, the conſtruction of which is generally known. But if there is any reaſon to ſuppoſe linen would, throughout the century have ſtood upon its own legs, how much more is there for its doing ſo at preſent! I will venture to aſſert, that there is not one yard of linen more made on account of the thirty-three thouſand pounds a year now expended. It is to ſuch a great manufacture a drop of water in the ocean.—An object too contemptible to have any effects attributed to it. It is idle and viſionary to ſuppoſe, that a fabric which has employed a fourth part of the kingdom for 70 years, and exports to the amount of a million and a half annually, wants boards, and bounties, and premiums, and impertinence to ſupport it. I have heard it ſaid more than once in Ireland, that a ſeat at the linen board might eaſily be worth 300l. a year; it is very well if the whole becomes a job, for it might juſt as well as be applied to inſpectors, itinerant men, builders and ſalaries.

I before calculated the extent of waſte land, the bounty on the inland carriage of corn would have improved at 10 l. an acre, let me do the ſame with the 1,300,000 expended on linen. It would have improved 130,000 acres, which would now be yielding 520,000l. a year, or a fourth part of the whole amount of all the linen manufacture of Ireland; ſo infinitely more productive is money beſtowed on the land than on the fabrics of a ſtate.

I do not mean to find fault with the eſtabliſhment of this manufacture; it has grown to a great degree of national importance, but from ſome unfortunate circumſtances in the police of it (if I may uſe the expreſſion) that importance is not nearly equal to what it ought to be, from the extent of country it abſolutely fills. It will be at leaſt a curious enquiry to examine this point; from the beſt information I can aſſert, that the linen and yarn made in Connaught, and part of Leinſter, vaſtly exceed in value all the exports of Ulſter excluſive of thoſe two commodities, which makes linen the whole exportable produce of that province, or 1,600,000l. a year. Ulſter contains 2,836,837 plantation acres; ſuppoſe that vaſt tract under ſheep, and feeding no more than two to an acre, their fleeces only at five ſhillings each, would amount raw to 1,418,418l. and ſpun into bay yarn, without receiving any farther manufacture, the value would be 2,127,622l. reckoning the labour half the value of the wool, that is to ſay, the amount would be more than the whole value of the linen manufacture both exported and conſumed at home.

How exceeding different are the manufactures of England! That of the ſingle city of Norwich amounts to near as much as the whole linen export of Ireland, but very far is that from being the whole exported produce of a province! It is not that of a ſingle county, for Norfolk, beſides feeding that city, Yarmouth and Lynn, two of the greateſt ports in England, and a variety of other towns, exports I believe more corn than any other county in the kingdom; and whoever is acquainted with the ſupply of the London markets, knows that there are thouſands of black cattle fattened every year on Norfolk turneps, and ſent to Smithfield. What a ſpectacle is this! The agriculture in the world, the moſt productive of wealth by exportation around one of the greateſt manufactures in Europe. It is thus that manufactures become the beſt friends to agriculture; that they animate the farmer's induſtry by giving him ready markets, until he is able, not only to ſupply them fully, but puſhes his exertions with ſuch effect, that he finds a ſurplus in his hands to convert into gold in the national balance, by rendering foreigners tributary for their bread. Examine all the other fabrics in the kingdom, you ſee them prodigious markets for the ſurrounding lands; you ſee thoſe lands doubling, trebling, quadrupling their rents, while the farmers of them increaſe daily in wealth; thus you ſee manufactures rearing up agriculture, and agriculture ſupporting manufactures; you ſee a reaction which gives a reciprocal animation to human induſtry; great national proſperity is the effect; wealth pours in from the fabrics, which ſpreading like a fertile ſtream over all the ſurrounding lands, renders them, comparatively ſpeaking, ſo many gardens, the moſt pleaſing ſpectacles of ſucceſsful induſtry.

Change the ſcene, and view the North of Ireland; you there behold a whole province peopled by weavers; it is they who cultivate, or rather beggar the ſoil, as well as work the looms; agriculture is there in ruins; it is cut up by the root; extirpated; annihilated; the whole region is the diſgrace of the kingdom; all the crops you ſee are contemptible; are nothing but filth and weeds. No other part of Ireland can exhibit the ſoil in ſuch a ſtate of poverty and deſolation. A farming traveller, who goes through that country with attention, will be ſhocked at ſeeing wretchedneſs in the ſhape of a few beggarly oats on a variety of moſt fertile ſoils, which, were they in Norfolk, would ſoon rival the beſt lands in that county.

But the cauſe of all theſe evils, which are abſolute exceptions to every thing elſe on the face of the globe, is eaſily found — a moſt proſperous manufacture, ſo contrived as to be the deſtruction of agriculture, is certainly a ſpectacle for which we muſt go to Ireland. It is owing to the fabric ſpreading over all the country, inſtead of being confined to towns. This in a certain degree is found in ſome manufactures in England, but never to the excluſion of farmers; there, literally ſpeaking, is not a farmer in a hundred miles of the linen country in Ireland. The lands are infinitely ſubdivided, no weaver thinks of ſupporting himſelf by his loom; he has always a piece of potatoes, a piece of oats, a patch of flax, and graſs or weeds for a cow, thus his time is divided between his farm and his loom. Ten acres are an uncommon quantity to be in one man's occupation; four, five, or ſix, the common extent. They ſow their land with ſucceſſive crops of oats until it does not produce the ſeed again, and they leave it to become graſs as it may, in which ſtate it is under weeds and rubbiſh for four or five years. Such a wretched management is conſtant deſtruction to the land; none of it becomes improved unleſs from a ſtate of nature; all the reſt is deſtroyed, and does not produce a tenth of what it would if cultivated by farmers, who had nothing to do but mind their buſineſs. As land thus managed will not yield rent, they depend for that on their web; if linen ſells indifferently they pay their rents indifferently, and if it ſells badly, they do not pay them at all. Rents in general, at their value, being worſe paid there than in any other part of Ireland.

Where agriculture is in ſuch a ſtate of ruin, the land cannot attain its true value; and in fact the linen counties, proportioned to their ſoil, are lower let than any others in Ireland. There has been a great riſe on many eſtates, and ſo there has all over the kingdom, but not at all owing to the manufacture; and I am confident, from having gone over the whole with attention, that any given tract of land in the linen country, if it could be moved to ſome other part of the kingdom where there are no weavers, would let twenty per cent. higher than it does at preſent; and I am ſo convinced of this, that if I had an eſtate in the South of Ireland, I would as ſoon introduce peſtilence and famine as the linen manufacture upon it, *carried on as it is at preſent in the North of that kingdom.* Particular ſpots may be, and are high let in the North, but I ſpeak of the average of any large tract.

But if, inſtead of the manufacture having ſo diffuſed itſelf as abſolutely to baniſh farmers, it had been confined to towns, which it might very eaſily have been, the very contrary effect would have taken place, and all thoſe vaſt advantages to agriculture would have flowed, which flouriſhing manufactures in other countries occaſion. The towns would have been large and numerous, and would have proved ſuch ample markets to all the adjacent country, that it could not have failed becoming well cultivated, and letting probably at double the preſent rent. The manufacturers would have been confined to their own buſineſs, and the farmers to theirs; that both trades would have flouriſhed the better for this, the minutes of the journey very generally ſhew; a weaver who works at a fine cloth, can never take the plough or the ſpade in hand without injury to his web.

I never heard but two objections to this: firſt, That the weavers would be unhealthy in towns: and ſecond, That the country would be leſs populous.

To the firſt I reply, that ill health is the conſequence of a ſedentary life and a bended poſture; whether the man has his farm or not, it is not a little work now and then that will remedy this evil if he ſupports himſelf by the loom. I was in ſeveral of the linen markets, and never ſaw more pallid pictures of diſeaſe; I defy any town to ſhew worſe. Robuſt, healthy, vigorous bodies, are not to be found at looms; if the health of the people is your object, you muſt give up manufactures, and betake yourſelves to agriculture altogether; but this, in the preſent ſtate of the world is viſionary. If the weavers were confined to towns, as I propoſe, there would be a much greater aggregate of health than at preſent, for the country would be as healthy as it always is in the hands of farmers and labourers, but at preſent *all* is unhealthy as *all* are manufacturers.

The ſecond objection I totally deny, for it is againſt all the principles of population to aſſert, that a meaſure, which is beneficial to both agriculture and manufactures, can be prejudicial to the increaſe of people; more food would be raiſed from well than from ill cultivated ground; a whole race of farmers and labourers would be employed in feeding the towns: to think that population could be injured by ſuch an arrangement is an abſurdity too groſs to deſerve attention.

That the circumſtances of the Iriſh manufacture are lamentable, when the extent of country is conſidered, no man of reflection can doubt, for the value of it taken in that light (important as it is in its total amount) appears to be comparatively trivial. Fortunately the evil is not without a remedy; the landlords of the country might, with no great difficulty, effect the change. Let them ſteadily refuſe to let an acre of land to any man that has a loom; the buſineſs would and ought to be gradual; but farms ſhould be thrown by degrees into the hands of real farmers, and weavers driven into towns, where a cabbage garden ſhould be the utmoſt ſpace of their land; and thoſe gentlemen who are introducing the manufacture into other parts of the kingdom, ſhould build the cabbins contiguous, and let the inhabitants on no account have any land. All encouragement, all attention, all bounty, all premium, all reward, ſhould go to thoſe alone who lived by, and attended to their looms alone, not in a ſeparated cabbin, but in a ſtreet. The more a perſon attends to the abominable ſtate of land in the North of Ireland, the more he will be convinced of the propriety and even neceſſity of this meaſure; and if, contrary to common ſenſe, a paltry board is permitted to exiſt, by way of promoting a fabric of two millions a year, let them have this object, and this only as their buſineſs. Let them deviſe the means of inducing landlords to drive their weavers into towns, and they will in a few years do more good to their country than all their inſpectors, itinerant men, and ſpinning wheels, will do in a century.

Relative to the other manufactures of Ireland, I am ſorry to ſay they are too inſignificant to merit a particular attention; upon the ſubject of that of wool I muſt however remark, that the policy of England, which has always hitherto been hoſtile to every appearance of an Iriſh woollen manufacture, has been founded upon the mean contractions of illiberal jealouſy; it is a conduct that has been founded upon the ignorance and prejudices of mercantile people, who, knowing as they are in the ſcience which teaches that two and two make four, are loſt in a labyrinth the moment they leave their counting-houſes and become ſtateſmen; they are too apt to think of governing kingdoms upon the ſame principles they conduct their private buſineſs on, thoſe of monopoly, which though the ſoul of private intereſt, is the bane of public commerce. It has been the miſtaken policy of this country, to ſuppoſe that all Ireland gained by a woollen manufacture would be ſo much loſs to England; this is the true monopolizing ignorance. We did not think proper to draw theſe bands of commercial tyranny ſo tight as to interdict their linens; we gave them a free trade; nay we import an immenſe quantity of Ruſſian and German linen, and yet between this double fire of the Iriſh and foreigners, has our own linen manufacture flouriſhed and increaſed; it is the ſpirit and effect of every ſpecies of monopoly to counteract the deſigns which dictate that mean policy. The rivalſhip of the Iriſh (if a rivalſhip was to enſue) would be beneficial to our woollen trade; as a faſt friend to the intereſt of my native country, I wiſh ſucceſs to thoſe branches of the Iriſh woollens which would rival our own; a thouſand beneficial conſequences would flow from it; it would inſpirit our manufacturers; it would awaken them from their lethargy, and give riſe to the ſpirit of invention and enterprize. How long did our old broad cloth trade ſleep in the weſt, without one ſign of life ſtrong enough to animate a new purſuit; but a different ſpirit breaking out in Yorkſhire and Scotland, new fabrics were invented, and new trades opened. A free Iriſh woollen trade would put our manufacturers to their mettle, and would do more for the woollen trade of England than any other meaſure whatever. Our merchants think ſuch a rivalſhip would ruin them; but do they think the French would not reaſon for ſuch fears alſo? Have we not loſt the Levant and Turkey trade through the obſtinacy of our monopoliſts? And why ſhould not Ireland have a chance for ſuch a branch as well as Languedoc? But ſuch has been our narrow policy with reſpect to that kingdom, that we have for a century ſat down more contented with the ſucceſsful rivalſhip of France, than with the chance of an Iriſh competitor.

Whenever any queſtion, relative to commercial indulgence to Ireland, has come into the Britiſh parliament, its friends have always urged the *diſtreſſed ſtate of Ireland* as a motive. This is taking the ground of duplicity, perhaps of falſhood, they ought to be more liberal, and avow that their principle is not to relax the preſent laws as a matter of humanity to Ireland, but of right and policy to themſelves; to demand a free trade to Ireland as the beſt friends to Britain; to demand that France may be rivalled by the ſubjects of the Britiſh empire, if thoſe of one kingdom cannot, or will not do it, that thoſe of another may.

One would have reaſon to ſuppoſe, from the ſpirit of commercial jealouſy among our woollen towns, that whatever Ireland got was loſt to England: I ſhall in a ſucceeding ſection inſert a table, which will ſhew that in exact proportion to the wealth of Ireland, is the balance of the Iriſh trade in favour of England. That kingdom is one of the greateſt cuſtomers we have upon the globe; is it good policy to wiſh that our beſt cuſtomer may be poor? Do not the maxims of commercial life tell us that the richer he is the better? Can any one ſuppoſe that the immenſe wealth of Holland is not of vaſt advantage to our manufactures; and though the Ruſſia trade, upon the balance, is much againſt us, who can ſuppoſe that the increaſing wealth of that vaſt empire, owing to the unparalleled wiſdom of its preſent empreſs, the firſt and moſt able ſovereign in the world, is not an increaſing fund in favour of Britiſh induſtry?

The tabinets and poplins of Ireland (a fabric partly of woollen, partly of ſilk) did that iſland poſſeſs a greater freedom in the woollen trade, would find their way to a ſucceſsful market throughout all the South of Europe. A friend of mine travelled France and Spain with a ſuit of that pleaſing fabric among others, and it was more admired and envied than any thing he carried with him. This is a manufacture of which we have not a veſtige in England.

Under another head I inſerted the export of wool and yarn, and alſo the import of woollen goods from England; the following ſlight minute on the proportionate value of the labour to the material, will conclude what I have to ſay on a manufacture, which working only for home conſumption can never thrive.

Bay yarn. A woman, on an average, ſpins three ſkains a day, which weigh a quarter of a pound, the value ſpun is from ten pence to a ſhilling, medium ten pence three farthings.

	d.
Combing it not quite —	1
Spinning, — —	2½
	3½
Value of the wool, —	7¼
	10¾

The balls are a pound and an half each of twelve ſkains, the woman ſpins a ball in four days, being paid ten pence; in Leinſter it is ten pence halfpenny, and in Munſter it is nine pence; average nine pence three farthings. Combing a ball is about three pence, which with ſpinning nine pence three farthings, makes twelve pence three farthings labour on a ball; and the price of a ball, both wool and labour, in the year 1778, was three ſhillings and ſixpence. In a war the price of wool generally falls in Ireland. The laſt French war did not ſink prices in Ireland, but the Spaniſh one did. The ſilk manufacture of Ireland has been already diſcuſſed in Section 16, and is a fabric that merits neither the encouragement of the natives, nor the attention of others.

SECTION XX.

Revenue——Taxes.

THE riſe, progreſs, and preſent ſtate of the revenue of Ireland, is very little underſtood in England, though an object of conſiderable importance to that kingdom. The variations of this revenue are uſeful marks, among many others, of the proſperity or declenſion of the iſland, and every thing which enables us to judge of the real ſtate of a country with which we are ſo intimately connected, well deſerves our attention.

The public revenue in that kingdom ſtands upon a very different footing from ours in England, owing to the operations of the revolution relative to this object not having extended to Ireland. Before that epoch the two kingdoms were in this reſpect ſimilar; but the old ſubſidies and other duties which formed the hereditary revenue of the Stuarts in England, were purchaſed of the crown at the revolution with the civil liſt revenue of 700,000 l. no ſimilar bargain took place in Ireland, conſequently the old hereditary revenue in that kingdom is at preſent under the ſame circumſtances as the like funds were in England before the year 1688. It is upon this old revenue that the penſions on the Iriſh eſtabliſhment are granted; the crown claims a right to apply the whole of it at its pleaſure, but arguments have been urged againſt that claim.

The following tables will ſet the progreſs of late years, and preſent receipt of the revenue, in a clear light.

	Cuſtoms in	*Cuſtoms out.*	*Import exciſe.*	*Inland exciſe.*	*Additional duty on ale beer and ſtrong waters*	*Hearth money.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the Year 1730	97,821	27,012	78,248	64.360	50,909	42,301
1731	71,671	24.030	66,808	71,410	56,439	42,263
1732	76,880	25,807	74,259	76,473	60,374	42,810
1733	87,395	24,174	76,257	74.835	59,284	43,550
1734	84,542	25,780	75,974	76,076	60,501	43,926
1735	88,321	25,624	77,241	66,851	53,071	44,201
1736	104,580	24,124	84.875	63,636	50,542	44,112
1737	96,218	24,705	74.160	65,653	52,194	43,921
1738	98,086	26,131	87,302	70,787	56,114	44,035
1739	95,428	24,414	79,203	71,731	56,895	44,244
1740	84,912	25,388	73,336	69,675	55,375	45,045
1741	93,381	21,064	79,360	66,956	53,151	44,965
1742	97,630	21,093	72,104	67,156	53,419	41,828
1743	95,893	22,086	76,910	79,785	63,720	41,165
1744	88,451	27.647	69,759	88,874	70.939	41,823
1745	86,531	23,824	72,001	84,398	67,562	42,911
1746	89,685	22,836	63,710	74,626	59,564	41,410
1747	89,824	29,627	64,164	73,347	58,803	40,327
1748	95,819	26,486	84,916	84,282	67,895	40,960
1749	109,840	31,329	88,463	88,817	71,648	42,180
1750	151,279	29,698	123.858	92,294	74,404	43,039
1751	147,366	27,484	110,219	91,596	73,892	44,794
1752	137,731	30,726	105,492	94,802	76,389	51,924
1753	159,813	29,990	108,764	90,556	73,192	52,946
1754	186,990	26,770	131,906	88,694	71,566	53,405
1755	156,764	30,485	119,765	83,311	67,155	53,789
1756	147,469	26,884	98,262	80,728	65,042	54,283
1757	124,428	28,569	84,049	73,296	58,716	54,153
1758	137,570	32,135	95,086	67,622	54,416	52,859
1759	161,578	30,018	111,018	69,301	54,742	53,482
1760	148,445	33,673	116,831	77,411	61,533	54,570
1761	150,997	39,419	103,225	86,504	69,119	55,027
1762	190,553	39,988	132,540	93,543	76,349	55,970
1763	177,834	31,893	122,679	92,842	75,911	56,611
1764	209,999	38,805	144,585	92,745	75,878	56,878
1765	213,128	35,943	152,367	87,754	72,109	57,237
1766	214,985	37,788	173.313	85,752	70,250	57,523
1767	204,864	34,259	147,411	80,094	64,788	57,406
1768	212,743	39,754	155,258	79,765	65,536	57,930
1769	211,049	40,045	157,241	83,557	69,147	58,362
1770	210,490	37,390	152,996	79,631	63,328	58,820
Average, —	211,036	37,712	154,753	84,185	68,718	57,736
1771	200,270	35,712	146,329	70,743	49,160	58,970
1772	199,368	38,850	146,461	70.319	48,971	58,439
1773	232,767	37,397	151,662	74.991	53,274	59,938
1774	229,609	37,169	144,796	77,679	55,419	59,383
1775	203,008	38,010	130,104	77,251	54,894	60,900
1776	248,491	42,488	152,238	79,411	57,353	60,966
1777	251,055	35,883	153,727	80,461	57,750	60,580
Average of laſt 7 years,	223,709	37,929	146,473	75,839	53,831	59,868
1778	198,550	36,027	131,284	81,761	58,612	61,646
1779	165.802	31,717	106.070	76,335	54.934	60,617

A very ſlight examination of theſe columns will ſhew a great increaſe in all (except the inland exciſe, and cuſtoms outward) about the year 1748. The concluſion of the peace of Aix la Chapelle ſeems from this table, as well as from a variety of others to have been the principal epoch in the proſperity of Ireland. The inland exciſe is a revenue ſo wretchedly adminiſtered by the confeſſion of the whole kingdom, that no concluſions whatever are to be drawn from it. The cuſtoms outwards have riſen but little; and not at all in the laſt ſeven years, which is to be accounted for from ſome of the principal articles of the exports, ſuch as linen, &c. being either duty free, or having ſo ſmall a cuſtom as to be merely with deſign of aſcertaining quantities; and alſo by the falling off in the export of the produce of paſturage which I have ſhewed before, moſt of the articles of it having an ill judged duty on them. But the cuſtoms inwards is not a bad one, for an increaſed import, though at firſt ſight it ſeems to be againſt a nation, ought never to be taken in that light. No kingdom ever imports goods which it cannot pay for, and an increaſed conſumption is the ſtrongeſt proof of an increaſed ability to pay for it. I muſt however remark, that the increaſe in this column the laſt ſeven years is very trifling. There are in all the other columns, except hearth money, a decline in this period which very well deſerves to be enquired into. That the kingdom has flouriſhed in it I have little or no doubt, it may, therefore, probably be owing to the multiplication of abuſes in the collection of the revenues, which being ſo many cancers in the body politic ought to be remedied with the utmoſt aſſiduity.

The increaſe of the hearth money is a matter of importance, for it proves an increaſe of population clearly; which indeed could not be doubted from the increaſed proſperity and wealth of the kingdom, and from the repeated information I received all over it to that purport.

The whole groſs revenues offer a different appearance from theſe particular duties, the following account ſhews there has been an increaſe, but owing to an increaſe of taxes.

Two years ending Lady day.	*Hereditary revenue groſs.*	*Old additional duties groſs.*	*For receiving revenue, paying drawbacks and premiums on corn &c.*	*Nett produce of the hereditary and old additional duties.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1751	1,048,858	366,462	192,513	1,233,943
1753	1,047,062	349,557	185,766	1,210,853
1755	1,127,552	367,980	193,259	1,302,274
1757	954,668	322,568	191,357	1,085,880
1759	989,937	320,415	205,290	1,105,062
1761	1,053,939	346,649	234,077	1,166,511
1763	1,201,300	418,258	260,602	1,358,956
Average,	1,060,474	355,698	208,981	1,209,068
In the Year 1765	1,298,165	452,375	273,010	1,477,529
1767	1,295,317	471,240	318,044	1,448,513
1769	1,309,828	481,998	347,943	1,443,882
1771	1,276,711	454,955	349,275	1,382,391
1773	1,288,094	439,615	398,380	1,329,330
1775	1,279,275	404,415	428,180	1,255,509
1777	1,388,044	419,748	464,762	1,343,120
Average,	1,305,062	446,335	368,786	1,382,896
In the Year 1779	1,175,145	346,696		

Theſe are for ſeſſions not years. Beſides theſe duties there are others appropriated by parliament to particular purpoſes; theſe are for paying the intereſt of loans, for the encouragement of the linen manufacture, of tillage, of proteſtant ſchools, and the cambric manufacture.

The whole revenue of the kingdom for twenty years in two periods, of ten each with the averages, will ſhew the general increaſe, whether owing to new duties or an increaſe of old ones.

TOTAL

TOTAL REVENUE OF IRELAND.

	l.		l.
In the year 1758	650,763	In the year 1768	945,520
1759	714,918	1769	977,372
1760	717,022	1770	954,045
1761	746,151	1771	900,913
1762	878,068	1772	897,396
1763	850,895	1773	955,074
1764	939,139	1774	*957,498
1765	948,251	1775	†930,228
1766	990,744	1776	1,040,055
1767	910,780	1777	1,093,881
Average of ten years,	834,673	Average of ten years,	965,198
		Ditto of the former period,	834,673
		Increaſe,	130,525

But this revenue, conſiderable as it is, has not been equal to the national expenditure. In the ſeſſions of 1759, there was a ſurplus in the treaſury of 65,774l. yet in the following one a conſiderable debt was contracted, as will be ſeen by the progreſs of the incumbrance.

Year		l.	
1761	—	223,438	National debt.
1763	—	521,161	ditto.
1765	—	508,874	ditto.
1767	—	581,964	ditto.
1769	—	628,883	ditto.
1771	—	789,569	ditto.
1773	—	‡999,686	ditto.
1775	—	976,117	ditto.
1777	—	§825,426	ditto.
1779	—	1,062,597	ditto.

Suppoſe the revenue a million, it is about a ſixth part of the land rents of the kingdom. If there are three million of ſouls in Ireland, they pay exactly 6s. 8d. a head. It appeared before

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* *Additional duties laid.*

† *Stamps ditto.*

‡ *This does not agree with the ſtate in vol.* 17 *of the journals, nor the following year.*

§ *Extracted from the national accounts laid before parliament every ſeſſions.*

fore the export of linen, yarn, corn, woollen, pork, beef, &c. &c. amounted to 3,250,471 l. ſuppoſe all other exports would make it up three and a half millions, the revenue of the kingdom amounts not quite to a third.

It will not be improper here to compare the burthens of Ireland with thoſe of Great-Britain.

	l.	s.	d.	
Britiſh revenue of 13 millions paid by 9 millions of people is, —	1	9	0	a head.
Iriſh revenue of 1 million paid by 3 millions of people is, —	0	6	8	a head.
Britiſh revenue of 13 millions paid by 72 millions * of acres is, —	0	3	6	each.
Iriſh revenue of 1 million paid by 25 millions of acres is, —	0	0	10	each.
Britiſh revenue of 13 millions paid by a rental † of 24 millions is,	0	10	10	in the pound.
Iriſh revenue of 1 million paid by a rental of 6 millions is, —	0	3	4	in the pound.
Britiſh revenue of 13 millions paid by an export of ‡ 16 millions is,	0	16	3	in the pound.
Iriſh revenue of 1 million paid by an export of 3½ millions is, —	0	5	9	in the pound.
Britiſh revenue of 13 millions paid by a balance of trade of 5 millions is,	2	12	0	in the pound.
Iriſh revenue of 1 million paid by a balance of trade of 1 million is,	1	0	0	in the pound.

The inferiority of the taxes of Ireland to thoſe of Great-Britain, upon every one of theſe compariſons is very great; the parallel is, however, certainly not complete: the ſpecie of Ireland is 1,600,000 l. but it is difficult to ſay what that of England is, the gold coinage proved our calculators to be ſo amazingly out in their reckoning, but in this article, including paper lies, I apprehend the greater eaſe in England of paying taxes, which are light or heavy, not perhaps ſo much in proportion to the income of a people as to the eaſe of circulation; that in England is out of all compariſon greater than in Ireland, which would make it impoſſible for the preceding proportions to be raiſed in that kingdom as high as they are in Britain. But fair allowances being made for this article, ſtill we may with great ſafety conclude that this national burthen is vaſtly lighter there than with us. If the advantages of ſuch a ſitua-

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* The exact number at 640 to a mile is 71,979,848.

† 20l. that of England, and 4l. allowed for Scotland.

‡ The laſt cuſtom-houſe account.

a ſituation are not continued, it will certainly be owing to complaints of poverty, occaſioning cloſer ſcrutinies into facts than have hitherto happened.

We come next to the expence which abſorbs this income.

Two years ending Lady day.	*Civil liſt.*	*Military liſt.*	*Extraordinary charges, including parliamentary grants.*	*Totals.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1751	146,134	766,151	126,356	1,038,643
1753	143,705	762,571	152,415	1,058,691
1755	144,602	795,182	169,276	1,109,061
1757	161,223	794,364	362,674	1,318,263
1759	181,964	820,383	298,173	1,300,521
1761	202,052	997,072	281,888	1,481,013
1763	221,365	1,124,743	332,934	1,679,043
1765	241,271	988,535	275,955	1,505,761
1767	257,988	971,007	337,646	1,566,642
1769	270,040	954,426	327,094	1,551,561
1771	272,678	976,917	373,997	1,623,593
1773	323,833	1,172,723	389,634	1,886,191
1775	366,838	1,223,326	342,377	1,932,541
1777	410,904	1,112,682	410,172	1,933,758
1779	336,475	937,679	432,474	1,706,628

Two years ending Lady day.	*Salaries excluſive of hearth-money collectors.*	*Two years ending Lady day.*	*Salaries excluſive of hearth-money collectors*
	l.		l.
In the year 1751	110,622	In the year 1765	151,655
1753	111,478	1767	156,157
1755	113,721	1769	164,364
1757	115,552	1771	165,374
1759	116,344	1773	169,567
1761	130,274	1775	176,107
1763	144,316	1777	171,578

Some of the particular duties which go towards raiſing the above revenue will be ſeen among the following articles.

	Goods exported.	*Duty.* l.
Year 1773.	Beef, —	10,759
	Bulls and cows, —	29
	Butter, —	6,809
	Candles, —	109
	Cheeſe, —	52
	Horſes, —	88
	Bacon flitches, —	120
	Hides, —	2857
	Tallow, cwt. —	2,994
	Tongues, —	75
	Total, —	23,892

	Goods imported.	
Year 1773.	Tobacco, —	121,148
	Rum, —	161,080
	Gin, —	21,935
	Brandy, —	34,206
	Tea, —	16,406
	Salt and ſalt petre,	11,305
	Silk, —	18,382
	Wine, —	* 104,701
		489,163

To lay a duty of near 24,000 l. a year upon the export of the produce of paſturage is heavy and moſt unpolitic, and ought to be aboliſhed. The other articles in this liſt are very proper ones to tax.

The decline in ſeveral branches of the revenue having united with an increaſed expence to run the nation in debt as above mentioned, new taxes are of courſe in contemplation every ſeſſions. A LAND TAX has been a matter of converſation in Ireland for ſome years: ſome increaſe muſt be made to the revenue, but in what mode is an enquiry of the moſt intereſting nature to that kingdom; I ſhall for this reaſon offer a few remarks on the ſtate of the country relative to the taxes which would be moſt proper for it.

There are a variety of objections to land taxes in general, beſides the particular ones which apply immediately to Ireland. Taxes ought all to be equal, but an *equal* land tax muſt be a *variable* one which is at once a *tythe*, the moſt pernicious burthen to which any nation can ſubmit; it is the taille, the equal land tax of France which is ſo well known to be the ruin of the agriculture of that kingdom: hence therefore equality muſt not be thought of in a land tax: and if there were no other objections, this alone ought for ever to preclude them. But ſuppoſe a fixed unequal tax as in England, yet there are great evils in it, a man's poſſeſſions are rarely to be taken as a proof of his capability to bear a tax; a landlord who receives a thouſand pounds a year from his eſtate, and pays ſeven hundred intereſt of mortgages is taxed at his whole rental; what enormity and ruin is this! that the ability to bear the burthen is to be of no conſequence in laying the tax. When the amazing amount of mortgages on landed property is conſidered, the greatneſs of this oppreſſion muſt be fully felt. But land taxes when they are unequal are unproductive; hence the oppreſſions under this name which cruſh the agriculture of France, Milan, and the ſtates of Auſtria and Pruſſia, in moſt of which actual *valuations* of the land are made periodically, as if no man's improvement ſhould eſcape taxation: hence alſo the deſigns of the Engliſh miniſtry once remarkably manifeſted, of dropping the preſent land tax in order to obtain an equal one: theſe are univerſal objections to land taxes.

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* Commons Journals, vol. 16, p. 268.

But in Ireland there are others which concern that country ſingly, and therefore the more deſerving attention; a vaſt proportion of it is under leaſe for ever; other parts let for five hundred years; others for lives and a hundred years; others for lives and fifty and thirty years; in a word, under leaſes of every deſcription. How could a land tax be laid in that kingdom conſiſtently with the reigning principle of the Engliſh tax, that the landlord only ſhall pay it? Difficulties innumerable would ariſe at every ſtep; no gordian knot but the ſword of power can cut; but the queſtion is whether all the principles that have directed a ſimilar tax in England would not be cut with them: for the tax to be either equal or productive, it muſt be laid on ſome claſſes of tenantry: it ought certainly to be laid on all who do not occupy; but from that moment there is an end of it as an Engliſh land tax, it is a taille, a tax on tenantry: break the limits, the great line between the owner of the land and the tenant, and who will ſay how far the innovation will be carried, the moſt dangerous that can ever be made in a kingdom? Adieu to all improvements in agriculture wherever ſuch an one takes place.

Evils of this ſort rarely make their full appearance at firſt; a land tax in Ireland would probably come in under a very fair appearance; but the ſtate of the country ought to tell its inhabitants that ſuch a tax would be too unproductive to laſt; the ſucceſſive alterations would do the fatal buſineſs, and produce the miſchief in its full deformity.

Adminiſtration have had experience in England of the loſs, as it has been called, to the revenue from a fixed tax: if ever therefore they introduced it into Ireland, it would be in a form which admitted alterations, in order to avoid the circumſtance which has more than once raiſed a ſtrong inclination to a new aſſeſſment. For theſe and other reaſons too numerous to give in detail here, I am convinced that Ireland can never experience a more pernicious tax than that on land.

But as I obſerved before, government muſt go on, and muſt be ſupported at an increaſing expence; new taxes muſt conſequently be had recourſe to, and I ſhall not heſitate a moment in recommending exciſes as the only ones which can be much extended without any national injury: an entire change in the adminiſtration of them ſhould take place; the monſtrous abuſes in them remedied, and new ones laid. The cheapneſs of whiſkey with which a man may get dead drunk for two pence, is an enormity too great to be borne. The morals, health, peace, induſtry, agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and wealth of the kingdom, are all materially injured, by the cheapneſs of this vile beverage: there is not an object in Ireland which would yield a more productive revenue, at the ſame time that every ſhilling government got would be half a crown benefit to the public: a judicious, and well collected exciſe on this liquor would raiſe an immenſe revenue. All other ſpirits, wines and tobacco, are alſo very well able to bear much heavier taxes than they labour under at preſent. An exciſe on tea alſo might be applicable; but there is no want of objects; and if the legiſlature of the kingdom will not ſet themſelves very ſteadily to the buſineſs, a land tax will be the conſequence, and in it all the miſchiefs that muſt attend the meaſure.

The propoſition for a land tax on abſentees was very wiſely rejected; the execution of it would have ſmoothed ſome of the difficulties, or at leaſt rendered them familiar, and certainly have facilitated a general tax of the ſame nature.

The mode purſued in Ireland of raiſing money by tontine, at an exceeding high intereſt, ſo high even as 7 per cent. is very miſchievous to the kingdom. The great want of that country is *capital*, conſequently any meaſure which tends to leſſen capitals that are employed in any branch of induſtry, is pernicious: ſeven per cent. intereſt in national funds muſt be a ſevere blow to every branch of induſtry, for who will lend money on private ſecurity at ſix per cent. while the public gives ſeven? And what man will undergo the trouble, and run the hazard of manufactures or commerce, while he can ſit by his fire ſide with ſeven per cent. in his pocket. In England where the capital is ſo immenſe, and with all that of Holland at command, ſimilar tranſactions are found exceedingly detrimental, inſomuch that no induſtry can be carried on which will not yield very large profits; no money to be procured on bond; ſcarce any on mortgage; vaſt ſums drawing out of the general induſtry for inveſtment in the public funds, and a general fall in the value of that great portion of landed property which is obliged to be ſold. But the ſums borrowed in this country may be too large to raiſe by taxes; I do not think it is the ſame in Ireland; and that kingdom had much better raiſe their ſupplies within the ſeſſion than leſſen their little capital by tontines.

SECTION XXI.

Commerce —— Fiſheries —— Embargoes.

UNFORTUNATELY for Ireland, the general commerce of it is to be fully treated in a very ſmall compaſs; and the facts which I have already had occaſion to lay before the reader, in the two preceding ſections, go very far towards completing the whole that is neceſſary to explain its ſtate. Being a dependent country, the Britiſh legiſlature has upon all occaſions controuled its commerce, ſometimes with a very high hand, but univerſally upon the principles of monopoly, as if the poverty of that country was to form the wealth of Britain, I have on every occaſion endeavoured to ſhew the futility of ſuch an idea, and to prove from the evidence of invariable facts, that the wealth of Ireland has always been, and is, the wealth of England, that whatever ſhe gets is expended in a very large proportion in the conſumption of Britiſh fabrics and commodities. The increaſed proſperity of Ireland, which ſhe has experienced in ſpite of our abſurd reſtrictions on her commerce, has raiſed her to be one of the greateſt and beſt markets this kingdom poſſeſſes in any part of the globe.

It is a remarkable fact which was pointed out to me by that very able politician, the Earl of Shelburne, that the narrowneſs of our prohibitory laws in England is of late date; from the old Engliſh acts of parliament it appears, that before the reſtoration the true ſyſtem of commerce was much better underſtood than it has been of late days: if the tranſactions of the commonwealth are examined, there will appear great liberality and the ſoundeſt principles in Cromwell and the leading men of thoſe times; and that it was the clear determination of the protector as well as of the long parliament, to make the trade of Ireland as free as poſſible; nay, the act of navigation itſelf, at the reſtoration, included Ireland upon the ſame footing as England; it was not till twelve years afterwards, that the exception crept in by a ſingle clauſe in another

other act, which probably was paſſed at the deſire of ſome merchant, without any perſon's caring about it, which has been the caſe with many an American act. The next prohibitory law, which declared the importation of Iriſh cattle a nuiſance, was a conteſted job between the duke of Ormond and the duke of Lauderdale; afterwards it became the faſhion to paſs acts againſt Ireland, which nobody had the knowledge or liberality to oppoſe. In the full perfection of this ſpirit it was, that a bill, which paſſed in Ireland in 1759, for reſtricting the importation of damaged flour, was thrown out in England at the inſtigation of a ſingle miller at Chicheſter.

Whenever old prejudices wear out, it will certainly be found for the intereſt of England to give every freedom poſſible to the trade of Ireland. I am convinced if this extended to its being an abſolute free port, no miſchief would reſult from it; but as to a free export to all the world, not the ſhadow of a good argument ever yet appeared againſt it; for upon what principles of policy, or of common ſenſe, can we found a conduct which reſtrains our own ſubjects from the free ſale of their products and manufactures, when the returns of ſuch ſales muſt flow into our own coffers by that extention of demand which has been inſeparably connected with the wealth of Ireland, when the population and the power that riſe upon ſuch wealth are our own? A mercantile landlord at London might as well ſay to his tenant in Yorkſhire, You ſhall not ſell your corn to whom you pleaſe, you ſhall ſhip it to me; you ſhall not convert your wool to the beſt purpoſes, you ſhall ſell it raw to me. This language might be that of his leaſes, but it would be that of folly. Would he not ſoon find, that by leaving his tenants to make the beſt of their own commodities, they would afford to pay him a better rent; their wealth becomes his, if he keeps them poor he muſt be ſo himſelf. The caſe of Ireland is exactly parallel; the inhabitants of that iſland, in their public revenue, in their military, by their abſentees, and in their commercial balance, pay to this kingdom a direct rent for it, which vibrates in its amount to the variations of their national wealth. While it was a wilderneſs of ſavages it paid the rent which deſarts every where yield; as it improved our receipt has been proportioned, until it has become a cultivated flouriſhing eſtate, and yields a rent which marks to an iota the extent of the cultivation, and the degree of that proſperity. Of what uſe is the experience of a century of facts, if we are not to open our eyes to the leſſons they convey? Long experience has told us what the effects of Iriſh wealth are; we feel thoſe effects flowing like vital warmth through the whole extent of our own territory, and ſhall we yet heſitate to encourage and extend a proſperity which is the ſource and foundation of our own?

I have taken the great line of leading principles; will the littleneſs of commercial jealouſy reply in its true ſpirit, that this town will be hurt; that that manufacture will be loſt; that Mancheſter will be alarmed; and that Norwich will have apprehenſions: it is not a queſtion for the weavers of one place and the merchants of another to decide, it is THE EMPIRE that is concerned; the general intereſt demands the meaſure, and ought to abſorb every pitiful conſideration: but all experience ſpeaks only one language even to theſe miſtaken individuals: I obſerved it before, and gave inſtances of manufactures ſinking in the poſſeſſion of a monopoly, and thriving from a rivalry; of markets riſing to increaſing induſtry; of the welfare of one country riſing from the proſperity of others: truths as univerſal as the world. And ſhall we deny the application to a ſiſter, but dependent kingdom, from whom we have ſo many ways of gaining all the advantages of her wealth? But arguments are little wanted where facts are ſo numerous; to thoſe I have already inſerted, let me add the following ſtate of our imports and exports in the Iriſh trade.

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND.

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Imports exceſs.*	*Exports exceſs.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1697	223,913	251,262		27,348
1698	333,968	293,813	40,154	
1699	417,475	269,475	147,999	
1700	233,853	261,115		27,262
1701	285,390	296,144		10,753
1702	258,121	215,112	43,008	
1703	324,289	266,324	57,965	
1704	321,847	215,949	105,897	
1705	279,992	244,057	35,934	
1706	266,269	198,176	68,092	
1707	306,423	263,412	43,010	
1708	274,689	251,974	22,715	
1709	276,423	251,519	24,904	
1710	310,846	285,424	25,421	
1711	297,238	261,426	35,811	
1712	291,669	274,845	16,823	

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND,
Continued.

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Imports excefs.*	*Exports excefs.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1713	295,926	306,964		11,038
1714	326,391	397,048		70,656
1715	389,437	420,062		30,625
1716	561,673	345,252	216,421	
1717	469,657	429,880	39,776	
1718	326,283	333,988		7,704
1719	380,130	387,460		7,329
1720	282,812	328,583		45,771
1721	332,882	378,838		37,956
1722	356,095	488,370		132,274
1723	360,526	553,945		193,418
1724	367,889	468,257		100,367
1725	333,870	474,836		140,965
1726	332,604	569,553		236,949
1727	307,038	436,012		128,973
1728	318,147	475,762		157,615
1729	287,648	517,198		229,549
1730	294,156	532,698		238,542
1731	308,936	618,684		309,745
1732	294,484	614,754		225,731
1733	386,105	595,251		351,822
1734	401,422	627,154		225,731
1735	417,421	769,244		351,822
1736	447,176	720,555		273,378
1737	346,476	730,910		384,433
1738	381,372	696,590		315,218
1739	411,924	673,621		261,697
1740	390,565	628,288		237,723
1741	404,863	698,715		293,851
1742	346,814	775,650		428,835
1743	816,797	860,178		43,380
1744	390,874	703,227		312,353
1745	1,441,498	910,920	530,578	
1746	532,686	796,157		263,471
1747	541,393	748,677		207,284
1748	464,489	906,424		441,935
1749	567,776	1,006,045		438,268
1750	612,808	1,316,600		703,792
1751	664,484	1,174,493		510,008
1752	563,959	1,140,608		576,648
1753	561,489	1,149,552		588,063
1754	610,466	1,173,829		563,362

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND, Continued.

	Imports.	Exports.	Imports exceſs.	Exports exceſs.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1755	643,165	1,070,063		426,897
1756	827,811	1,111,801		283,990
1757	687,471	960,843		273,371
1758	1,050,331	926,886	123,446	
1759	832,127	931,358		99,231
1760	904,180	1,050,401		146,220
1761	853,804	1,476,114		622,310
1762	889,368	1,528,696		639,328
1763	769,379	1,640,713		871,333
1764	777,412	1,634,382		856,969
1765	1,070,533	1,767,020		696,486
1766	1,154,982	1,920,015		765,033
1767	1,103,285	1,880,486		777,201
1768	1,226,094	2,248,315		1,022,221
1769	1,265,107	1,964,742		699,634
1770	1,214,398	2,125,466		911,068
1771	1,380,737	1,983,818		603,081
1772	1,242,305	1,963,787		721,481
* 1773	1,252,817	1,918,802		665,985

The reader will recollect that it was the general tenour of the information received in the journey, that the year 1748 was the epoch of the modern proſperity of Ireland; all agree that after that peace, Ireland advanced greatly, her riſe of rental will mark this clearly. The following is a review of the minutes:

RISE OF RENTS.

Lord Longford more than doubled in thirty years.—Earl of Inniſkilling quadrupled in ditto.—Mr. Cooper almoſt trebled ſince 1748.—Mayo trebled in forty years.—King's county two

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* *Extracted from the accounts laid before the Britiſh parliament.*

It is a circumſtance very much to be regretted, that theſe accounts no longer ſee the light; they have not been laid before parliament ſince 1773, why ſhould a practice that had continued for above a century ceaſe juſt then? If there were any trades like the American *which did not offer a pleaſing ſpectacle, there were others like thoſe of Ireland, Ruſſia, &c. to make amends.*

two thirds ſince 1750.—Tipperary doubled in twenty years.—Barony of Owna and Ara doubled in ditto.—Rich lands of Limerick riſen a fourth in twenty years, and two thirds ſince 1748.

In the preceding enquiries the truth of this is confirmed by every proof which authentic records can ſhew; as the table now before us marks the commercial connection between Great Britain and Ireland, it is neceſſary to divide it into periods, in order to ſee the average of each. The table contains twenty-five years ſince 1748, during which period

	Imports. l.	*Exports.* l.
The averages are, —	965,050	1,482,513
Ditto in the 25 preceding years,	438,665	657,972
Latter period ſuperior by, —	526,385	824,541

Here is an account that is worth a dozen arguments! It is from hence evident, that our exports to Ireland have in the laſt twenty-five years conſiderably more than doubled, almoſt trebled; and this great riſe has been exactly in the period of the internal proſperity of that iſland. If I did not know perſons of very reſpectable characters in parliament, who think very differently upon this great queſtion of the freedom of Iriſh trade, I ſhould be aſhamed of dwelling a moment on the ſubject. How would it have been poſſible for that country to ſupport ſuch an increaſed importation, unleſs ſhe had increaſed in wealth? And having proved that ſuch advances in national proſperity have been attended by this increaſed demand for the manufactures and products of England, are we not perfectly founded in concluding, that future advantages to Ireland will alſo be attended by ſimilar effects? The influx of wealth into that country brings a taſte for the elegant luxuries with which we abound, and the capability of purchaſing them enſures the purchaſe. An Engliſhman cannot go into a ſingle houſe in Dublin, or ſee a perſon dreſſed, of either ſex, without having this truth ſtaring him in the face. But there is a circumſtance in this account which deſerves particular attention, and that is our import trade not having increaſed ſo much as the export one, from which this plain concluſion is to be drawn; that let Ireland get her wealth from where ſhe will, it comes infallibly to England. The fourth column of the table which ſhews the balance ſhe pays us, and which amounts of late years, from ſix hundred thouſand to a million a year, could not poſſibly be ſupported with the abſentee drain, unleſs ſhe made by her trade elſewhere.

Average

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	l.	l.
Average of the laſt ſeven years, -	1,240,677	2,012,202
Ditto of the preceding ſeven years,	917,088	1,573,934
Increaſe, ——	323,569	438,268

From this compariſon we find, that the rapid increaſe of our exports to Ireland is in late years, the ſtronger reaſon therefore to expect, that whatever increaſe of wealth ſhe experiences, it will be England that will receive the full tribute of it. By means of the proſperity of Ireland the trade we carry on with that kingdom is grown to be one of the moſt important which we poſſeſs; and in the laſt year of this table, nearly equalled the export to the whole continent of North America.

	l.
Exports from England to the continent of North America, from Chriſtmas, 1772, to 1773, -	1,981,544
Ditto to Ireland, —— ——	1,918,802

Freight, inſurance and profit on both twelve per cent. Hence therefore this nation has no demand of policy ſo ſtrong on her at preſent, as to encourage Ireland to the utmoſt of her power, in order to increaſe her own trade to that iſland, that American loſſes may be the leſs ſenſibly felt; but this can only be done by embracing a ſyſtem totally it new. And here it is a tribute fairly due to genius long ſince departed, to obſerve, that the relative intereſts of England and Ireland were better underſtood by Mr. Houghton in 1682, than by any later writer, whoſe productions have come to my knowledge; and as I have mentioned him on this occaſion, I muſt remark, that he ſeems to me to have had juſter ideas of trade, manufactures, prices of proviſions, encloſures, &c. than nine tenths of the authors who have treated of thoſe ſubjects: "The richer Ireland grows the more wealth will the landlords have, and the more will they that live here ſpend. I am told by an inquiſitive and underſtanding knight, that hath a great eſtate there, and very well underſtands the Iriſh affairs, that what their gentry ſpend here, with the penſions and the rent that are paid from thence to the city of London, amounts to about three hundred thouſand pounds per annum, and I ſee no reaſon why this expence ſhould not increaſe according to their thriving."——"Even in the woollen manufacture I queſtion whether they could in *cloth* do more than the Dutch; and for other manufactures, why might it not *put both nations at ſtrife to find out ſome new conſumptions, and ſo increaſe the trades of both?* If there muſt be but a ſet quantity conſumed, ſeeing England bears up againſt, and in cloathing outdoth Terra Firma, *why may we not,* IF IRELAND

BE JOINED TO US, *ſpoil the trade on the other ſide, and ſo be both enriched*[*]?" Here is the intereſt of England, relative to that country, explained upon the moſt enlarged and moſt liberal principles of freedom and of commerce. This penetrating genius, who ſaw deeper into the true Engliſh intereſts than half our modern politicians, was ſenſible of no miſchiefs from a free Iriſh woollen trade: the prevalence of commercial jealouſy had not then ariſen to the heights we have ſince ſeen it. Without any heſitation, Ireland ought to have an abſolutely free trade of export and import to all our American colonies, and African ſettlements; alſo a very conſiderable freedom in her exports to Europe: but when this ſubject was in converſation in the houſe of commons, I heard the miniſter mention one circumſtance, which ſeemed to ſtand in the way of doing juſtice to Ireland, that is to ourſelves: taxes there being ſo much lower that their manufactures not being equally under the burthen of exciſes, would have an unfair ſtart of ours[†]. With great ſubmiſſion, I think this will not be found ſound doctrine either in fact or reaſon. I might here go into the queſtion of a *poor* and *cheap* country robbing a rich one of her manufactures, for the aſſertion comes directly to this; but Dr. Tucker has treated it in ſo maſterly a manner, and has ſo clearly proved the abſurdity of the idea, that what he has ſaid ought to be conſidered as concluſive. But why give in linen what you deny in other fabrics? Iriſh linen has all the advantages of a freedom from a great variety of exciſes, which the manufacturers of Engliſh linen labour under, and yet we not only ſupport the competition but thrive under it, from there being a difference in the fabrics, and as great a difference would be in all other fabrics. Their broad cloth, alſo, is made under the ſame advantages, and compare it in both price and quality with that of England; I bought it at ſeventeen ſhillings and ſixpence a yard at the Dublin ſociety's warehouſe, without the maſter manufacturer's profit and expences, and I will venture to aſſert, from wearing both, twenty-three ſhillings for Engliſh cloth to be cheaper. The ſame fact runs through a variety of their fabrics. The fixed trade, capital and ſkill of England will for ever bid defiance to the no exciſes of Ireland. But ſomething was forced to be given—had woollens been put down and linens not permitted, the oppreſſed and ruined people would have ſought redreſs with arms in their hands. The monopolizing ſpirit of commercial jealouſy gave as little as poſſible, and would not have given that little could ſhe have helped it. But the argument ſays, that Ireland having few exciſes will get much trade and wealth: and is it not your deſign that ſhe ſhould? Ought not this, in common ſenſe, to be your wiſh and aim? For whom does ſhe grow rich? If I have not proved that point there is no proof in fact, nor truth in figures. Why cannot ſhe rival France, Holland and Germany, as well as England? But we have ample experience to tell us that ſhe may rival without impoveriſhing us; that ſhe may grow rich and we great by her wealth; that ſhe may advance, and we be proſperous. To aſſert becauſe there are not as many exciſes in one part of our dominions as another, that therefore their trade ſhall be cramped is exactly like ſaying, that labour is cheap there, and for that reaſon ſhall never be dear; making the poverty of the kingdom the motive for keeping it poor.

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[*] *Collection of Huſbandry and Trade, vol.* 4. *p.* 48.

[†] *Written in June* 1779.

Taxes flow from trade and conſumption, give them the wealth to conſume, and never fear but taxes will follow.

FISHERIES.

There is ſcarcely a part of Ireland but what is well ſituated for ſome fiſhery of conſequence; her coaſts and innumerable creeks and rivers mouths are the reſort of vaſt ſhoals of herring, cod, hake, mackarel, &c. which might, with proper attention, be converted into funds of wealth; but capital is ſuch a univerſal want in Ireland, that very little is done. The minutes of the journey contain ſome valuable information on this head, but the general picture is rather an exhibition of what ought to be done, than any thing that actually is executed; nor have the meaſures of the legiſlature been attended with any conſiderable effect; ſome of them ſeem to have done miſchief, of which the following is an inſtance.

By the 3 G. 3. c. 24.—Twenty ſhillings, per ton on Engliſh or Iriſh built veſſels decked, after the commencement of this act, not under twenty tons, nor to be paid for more than one hundred, to proceed from ſome port in Ireland.

Bounty of two ſhillings a barrel on export of white herrings.

Ditto of two ſhillings and ſixpence on mackarel.

Ditto of five ſhillings for ſix ſcore of ling.

Ditto of three ſhillings for hake, haddock, glaſſing, and conger eel.

Ditto of four ſhillings and three-pence halfpenny for every tierce, of 41 gallons of wet fiſh exported.

Ditto of three pounds per ton for whale oil,
Ditto of thirty ſhillings ditto for other oil of fiſh,
Ditto of four pounds per cwt. for whale bone,
} manufactured in Ireland.

The following has been the effect of this meaſure.

BARRELS OF HERRINGS IMPORTED INTO IRELAND FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS.

	From G.Britain	From E. Country	Total.
	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
In the year — 1756	28,999	1,277	30,276
1757	28,955	2,080	31,035
1758	29,960	1,370	31,330
1759	23,611	113	23,724
1760	17,038¾	¼	17,009
1761	20,411½	142	20,554
1762	21,388	844	22,232
1763	23,519	2,156	25,675
1764	14,932	8,661	23,593
Average of 9 years before the bounty,	23,201	1,847	25,048
In the year — 1765	14,587	17,030	31,617
1766	35,552	24,555	60,107
1767	12,094	12,618	24,712
1768	16,640	23,252	39,892
1769	11,286	25,847	37,133
1770	22,891	23,655	46,546
1771	12,952	26,555	39,507
1772	10,445	34,241	44,686
1773	13,471	40,539	54,010
Average of 9 years after the bounty,	16,657	25,365	42,022

	l.	s.	d.
Import of herrings in the nine years ſince the bounty exceed the preceding period in 155,156 barrels. Value at fifteen ſhillings per barrel, — —	116,367	11	3
Export leſs by 16,357 barrels, at twenty ſhillings per barrel, —	16,357	15	0
Loſs alſo on the export and import of dry cod, 1,298 cwt. at 14s. per cwt.	973	10	0
Ditto on barrelled cod, —	364	17	6
	134,063	13	9
Hake 9,566 cwt. at fifteen ſhillings per cwt.	7,115	1	3
Salmon 1,108 tons, at twelve pounds per ton,	14,200	0	0
Mackarel, 2,666 barrels at twenty ſhillings per barrel, —— ——	2,666	0	0
Increaſed import ſince the bounty,	*158,604	15	0

Imported

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* *Manuſcript report of the fiſh committee, 1778, communicated by the Right Hon. William Burton.*

Imported herrings for home conſumption are from Scotland, for foreign uſe from Sweden. The former twenty ſhillings a barrel. The latter from fourteen to ſixteen ſhillings. And their own from ſixteen to twenty ſhillings.

Prices of other ſorts of fiſh. Dry ling from eighteen to twenty ſhillings per cwt. Salmon from twelve to thirteen pounds per ton. Hake from fourteen to ſixteen ſhillings per cwt. Dry cod from fourteen to ſixteen ſhillings per cwt. Wet cod from fourteen to eighten ſhillings per barrel †.

A STATE of the FISHING TRADE of IRELAND, for Nine Years, ſince the Commencement of the Bounty, compared with the Nine preceding Years.

	Import in 9 years to the 25th of March 1773	*Import in 9 years to the 25th of March* 1764	*Increaſe in laſt 9 years.*	*Decreaſe in laſt 9 years.*	*Total loſs in laſt 9 years.*	*Total gain in laſt 9 years.*
Herrings, barrels,	379,631	224,475	155,156		171,514	
Codd, cwt.	4,575	3,235	1,340		1,298	
Codd, barrels,	1,103	236	867		486	
Ling, cwt.	963	1,415		452		391
Salmon, tuns,	149	166		17		
Hake, cwt.		57		57		
Mackarel, barrels,		128		128		
	Export in laſt 9 years.	*Export in firſt 9 years.*				
Herrings, barrels,	34,986	51,344		16,357		
Salmon, ton,	2,759	4,084		1,125	1,108	
Hake, cwt.	8,617	18,241		9,623	9,566	
Ling, cwt.	411	472		61		
Mackarel, barrels,	2,249	5,043		2,794	2,666	
Codd, cwt.	2	42		42		
Codd, barrels,	472	91⅔	381			

	l.	s.	d.
Amount of premiums paid to fiſhing buſſes in the laſt nine years, ——	47,062	6	5
Ditto to exported fiſh, ——	1,265	4	7
	*48,328	4	7

Before I quit this article of Iriſh fiſheries, I ſhall obſerve that next to the cultivation of land there is no object in their national œconomy of ſo much importance. No manufactures, no trade can be of half the conſequence to Ireland, that many of her fiſheries might prove if encouraged with judgment. There is no undertaking whatever in which a ſmall capital goes ſo far; nor any in which the largeſt will pay ſuch ample profits. Scotland has the herrings ſomewhat earlier, but they come in good time to Ireland for the Mediterranean trade, and in a plenty that ought to make their capture a favourite object. The bounties hitherto given have been ſo far from anſwering that they have in ſome reſpects done miſchief. I was preſent more than once at the meetings of the fiſhery committee of the Iriſh houſe of commons, and I found them making anxious enquiries how to avoid great frauds, from which I found that notorious ones had been committed; this is the great misfortune of bounties when they are not given with great judgment and care. Relative to the fiſheries the profit is ſo great, that all acquainted with them will engage as far as their capital will admit, whatever bounties are given therefore ſhould not be with a view to inſtigate men poſſeſſed of capital, for they do not exiſt, but to put capitals into the hands of thoſe who will certainly make uſe of them. It appeared in the minutes of the Loch Swilly fiſhery that one boat and the nets ſufficient coſt 20 l.; the beſt bounty would be to give boats and nets to men uſed to the fiſhery, becauſe few are able to buy or build them. To give a premium on the export of the herrings or upon the tonnage of the boats will not anſwer, for it ſuppoſes them actually taken, and built, that is, it ſuppoſes the very difficulty got over which want of money makes perpetual. Before the boat is in the fiſhery it muſt be built, and before the fiſh are exported they muſt be taken, thoſe who have money to do either will go to work without any bounty, the profit alone being ſufficient. In countries ſo very poor, the firſt ſteps in ſuch undertakings are the moſt difficult; and to aſſiſt in overcoming the early difficulties is what the legiſlature ſhould aim at. Giving boats and nets to men that would certainly uſe them does this, and would be productive of great national good; always ſuppoſing that frauds and jobbing are guarded againſt; if they are permitted to creep in, as in giving ſpinning wheels, the miſchief would be far more than the benefit. 20,000 l. per annum thus expended would give 1000 boats, which would ſoon accumulate to a vaſt number, and if the effect was ſo great as to find the herrings regorge in the home market, then would be the time to drive them out by a bounty on the export, if their own cheapneſs did not bring the effect without it. I am far from recommending a new ſyſtem of bounties upon an object that had not received them before, they have been long given or jobbed, all I mean is, that if the public is burthened with ſuch payments, care ſhould be taken that they are given in the mode that promiſes to be moſt advantageous.

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† *Manuſcript Report Com. communicated by the Right Hon. William Burton.*

* *Ibid.*

EMBARGOES.

OF all the reſtrictions which England has at different times moſt impoliticly laid upon the trade of Ireland, there is none more obnoxious than the embargoes on their proviſion trade. The prohibitions on the export of woollens, and various other articles, have this pretence at leaſt in their favour, that they are advantageous to ſimilar manufactures in England; and Ireland has long been trained to the ſacrifice of her national advantage as a dependant country; but in reſpect to embargoes even this ſhallow pretence is wanting; a whole kingdom is ſacrificed and plundered, not to enrich England, but three or four London contractors! a ſpecies of men of an odious caſt as thriving only on the ruin and deſolation of their country. It is well known that all the embargoes that have ever been laid, have been for the profit of theſe fellows, and that the government has not profited a ſhilling by them. Whenever the affairs of Ireland come thoroughly to be conſidered in England a new ſyſtem in this reſpect muſt be embraced. It may not be proper for the crown directly to give up the prerogative of laying them; but it ought never to be exerted in the caſes, and with the views with which we have ſeen it uſed. The ſingle circumſtance of ſacrificing the intereſts of a whole people to a few monopolizing individuals in another country, is to make a nation the beaſts of burthen to another people. But this is not the only point; the intereſt of England and of government is equally ſacrificed, for their object is to have beef plentiful and cheap. But to reduce it ſo low by embargoes as to diſcourage the grazier, is to leſſen the quantity; he increaſes his ſheep or ploughs more, or is ruined by his buſineſs, which neceſſarily renders the commodity too dear, from the very circumſtance of having been too cheap. A ſteady regular good price, from an active demand encourages the grazier ſo much, that he will produce a quantity ſufficient to keep the price from ever riſing unreaſonably high, and government would be better ſupplied. Another conſideration is the loſs to the kingdom by not taking French money, and ſending them to other markets; if it could be proved, or indeed if the fact was poſſible, that you could keep their fleets in port for want of Iriſh beef there would be an argument for an embargo, perhaps, twice in half a century; but when all experience tells us that if they have not beef from Ireland they will get it from Holſtein, from Denmark and elſewhere, is it not folly in the extreme to refuſe their money, and ſend them to other markets. The Dutch were ridiculed in Louis XIV's reign for ſelling the French, before a campaign, the powder and ball which were afterwards uſed againſt themſelves: but they were wiſe in ſo doing, they had not the univerſal monopoly of iron and gunpowder, as of ſpices, and if they did not ſupply the enemy others would, for no army ever yet ſtaid at home in the heart of commercial countries for want of powder and ball: nor will a French fleet ever be confined to Breſt for want of beef to feed the ſailors. Embargoes therefore cannot be laid with any ſerious views of that ſort, but when contracts are made, the contractors gaping for monopoly, raiſe a clamour, and pretend that no beef can be had if France is ſerved, directly or indirectly, and in order to make their bargains ſo much the more profitable, government gives them an embargo on the trade of a kingdom (like a lottery ticket to a fund ſubſcriber) by way of *douceur*. This conduct is equally injurious to the true intereſt of England, of Ireland and of government.

Before I conclude this ſection, I muſt obſerve one circumſtance, which though not important enough to ſtop the progreſs of commercial improvement in Ireland, yet muſt very much retard it, and that is the contempt in which trade is held by thoſe who call themſelves gentlemen. I heard a language common in Ireland which if it was to become univerſal, would effectually prevent her ever attaining greatneſs. I have remarked the houſes of country gentlemen being full of brothers, couſins, &c. idlers whoſe beſt employment is to follow a hare or a fox; *why are they not brought up to trade or manufacture?* TRADE! (the anſwer has been) THEY ARE GENTLEMEN;—to be poor till doomſday: a tradeſman has not a right to the point of honour—you may refuſe his challenge. Trinity College at Dublin ſwarms with lads who ought to be educated to the loom and the counting houſe. Many ill effects flow from theſe wretched prejudices; one conſequence manifeſt over the whole kingdom, is commercial people quitting trade or manufactures when they have made from five to ten thouſand pounds to *become gentlemen*; where trade is diſhonourable it will not flouriſh, this is taking people from induſtry at the very moment they are the beſt able to command ſucceſs. Many quakers who are (take them for all in all the moſt ſenſible claſs of people in that kingdom) are exceptions to this folly: and mark the conſequence, they are the only wealthy traders in the iſland. The Iriſh are ready enough to imitate the vices and follies of England; let them imitate her virtues; her reſpect for commercial induſtry which has carried her ſplendor and her power to the remoteſt corners of the earth.

SECTION XXII.

Government——Union.

THERE never was a juſter idea than that which I had occaſion in another ſection to quote, that the revolution did not extend to Ireland; the caſe of the hereditary revenue was a remarkable inſtance, but the whole government of that iſland is one collective proof of it. The revolution was a moment in which all the *forms* of government were broken through in order to aſſert the *ſpirit* of liberty, but Ireland loſt that opportunity; meeting ſecurity againſt the Roman catholics in the victorious arms of king William, ſhe reſted ſatisfied with a government which ſecured her againſt the immediate enemy. It is certainly more a government of prerogative than that of England, and the law of the empire, the common law of the land is in favour of that prerogative; hence the abſurdity of proving the rights of Ireland in the details of common law, as Fitzgibbon and Mc. ——— have done. Ireland from diſtance and backwardneſs loſt thoſe fortuitous opportunities which proved ſo important to the liberty of England; ſhe could not claim the letter of the revolution, but ſhe could have claimed the ſpirit of it.

The contribution of that territory to the general wants of the empire is in two ſhapes. 1. By the penſion liſt. 2. By the military eſtabliſhment. The great liberal line for that kingdom to purſue is to examine not only the preſent amount of theſe articles, but what might be a fair eſtimate for the future. To come openly to the Engliſh government with an offer of an equal revenue applicable to whatever purpoſes government ſhould find moſt beneficial for the intereſt of the whole empire; with this neceſſary condition that the military ſhould be abſolutely in the power of the crown to remove and employ wherever it pleaſed. To think of tying down government, to keeping troops in any ſpot, is an abſurdity. Government can alone be the judge where troops are moſt wanting; it has an unlimited power in this reſpect in England, and it ought to have the ſame in Ireland; the good of the empire demands it. It is the fleet of England that has proved, and muſt prove the real defence of Ireland, and that iſland ſhould take its chance of defence in common with England. At the ſame time any apprehenſions, that they would be left without troops, would be abſurd; ſince it would be the king's intereſt to keep a great body of forces there, for ſeveral reaſons; among others, the cheapneſs of proviſions, which would render their ſubſiſtence comparatively eaſy; alſo, barracks being built all over the kingdom: another point which induce him, is the aſſiſtance their circulation would be of to the kingdom, whereas in England they would be a burthen. But the point might as well be given up chearfully, as to have it carried by a majority in parliament. Penſions have been always on the increaſe and will be ſo; and as to the troops, government carries its point at preſent, and ought to do ſo, why not therefore give up the point chearfully for a valuable conſideration? As theſe things are managed now, government is forced to buy, at a great expence, the concurrence of an Iriſh parliament to what is really neceſſary, would it not be more for the public intereſt to have a fixed permanent plan, than the preſent illiberal and injurious ſyſtem? The military liſt of Ireland, on an averge of the laſt ſeven years, has amounted to 528,544l. to which add 80,000l. penſions, and the total makes 608,544l. Would it not be wiſe in Ireland to ſay to the Britiſh government——"I will pay you a neat ſeven or eight hundred thouſand pounds* a year, applicable to your annual ſupplies, or paying off your debt, and leave the defence of the kingdom entirely to your own diſcretion, on condition that I ſhall never have any military charge or penſions laid on me; the remainder of the revenue to be at the application of my own parliament, for the uſes of interior government only, and for the encouragement of the trade, manufactures and agriculture of the kingdom. That you ſhall give me a ſpecified freedom of commerce, and come to a liberal explanation of the powers of your attorney general, the privy council, and Poyning's act." It would be the beſt bargain that Ireland ever made.

If the government was once placed on ſuch a footing, the office of lord lieutenant would be that of a liberal repreſentative of majeſty, without any of thoſe diſagreeble conſequences which flow from difficulties eſſentially neceſſary for him to overcome; and the government of England having in Ireland no views, but the proſperity of that kingdom, would neceſſarily be revered by all ranks of people. The parliament of the kingdom would ſtill retain both importance and buſineſs, for all that at preſent comes before it would then be within its province, except the military, and complaints of penſion liſts and reſtricted commerce. Perhaps the advantages of a union would be enjoyed without its inconveniencies, for the parliament would remain for the civil protection of the kingdom, and the Britiſh legiſlature would not be deluged by an addition of Iriſh peers and commoners, one reaſon among others, which made the late Earl of Chatham repeatedly declare himſelf againſt ſuch a meaſure †.

The great object of a union is a free trade, which appears to be of as much importance to England as to Ireland; if this was gained the uſes of an entire coalition would not be numerous to Ireland; and to England the certain revenue, without the neceſſity of buying majorities in parliament, would be a great object. But as to the objections to a union, common in Ireland, I cannot ſee their propriety; I have heard but three that have even the appearance of weight; theſe are: 1. The

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* *I have mentioned ſeven hundred thouſand pounds, but the ſum would depend of courſe on the liberality of the return, a free trade would be worth purchaſing at a much higher rate.*

† *The Earl of Shelburne has aſſured me of this fact; nor let me omit to add, that to that nobleman I am indebted for the outline of the preceding plan.*

increaſe of abſentees. 2. The want of a parliament for protection againſt the officers of the crown. 3. The increaſe of taxation. To the firſt and laſt, ſuppoſing they followed, and were admitted evils, the queſtion is, whether a free trade would not more than balance them; they imply the impoveriſhment of the kingdom, and were objected in Scotland againſt that union which has taken place; but the fact has been directly otherwiſe, and Scotland has been continually on the increaſe of wealth ever ſince; nay Edinburgh itſelf, which was naturally expected moſt to ſuffer, ſeems to have gained as much as any other part of the kingdom. Nor can I upon any principles think, a nation is loſing, who exchanges the reſidence of a ſet of idle country gentlemen, for a numerous race of induſtrious farmers, manufacturers, merchants, and ſailors. But the fact in the firſt objection does not ſeem well founded; I cannot ſee any inevitable neceſſity for abſentees increaſing; a family might reſide the winter at London without becoming abſentees; and frequent journies to England, where every branch of induſtry and uſeful knowledge are in ſuch perfection, could not fail to enlarge the views and cure the prejudices which obſtruct the improvement of Ireland. As to taxation, it ought to be conſidered as a circumſtance that always did, and always will follow proſperity and wealth. Savages pay no taxes, but thoſe who are hourly increaſing in the conveniencies, luxuries, and enjoyments of life, do not by any means find taxes ſuch a burthen as to make them wiſh for poverty and barbarity, in order to avoid taxation. In reſpect to the ſecond objection, it ſeems, to bear nearly as ſtrong in the caſe of Scotland, and yet the evil has had no exiſtence, the four-courts at Dublin would of courſe remain, nor do I ſee at preſent any great protection reſulting to individuals from a parliament, which the law of the land does not give; it ſeems therefore to be an apprehenſion not very well founded. So much in anſwer to objections; not by way of proving that an entire union is abſolutely neceſſary, as without ſuch a meaſure Ireland might certainly have great commercial freedom, and pay for it to the ſatisfaction of England.

SECTION XXIII.

General State of Ireland.

IT may not be diſadvantageous to a clear idea of the ſubject at large, to draw into one view the material facts diſperſed in the preceding enquiry, which throw a light on the general ſtate of the kingdom, and to add one or two others, which did not properly come in under any of the former heads, that we may be able to have a diſtinct notion of that degree of proſperity which appears to have been, of late years, the inheritance of her riſing induſtry.

BUILDINGS.

Theſe improving, or falling into decay, are unerring ſigns of a nation's increaſing grandeur or declenſion: the minutes of the journey, as well as obſervations already made, ſhew, that Ireland has been abſolutely new built within theſe twenty years, and in a manner far ſuperior to any thing that was ſeen in it before; it is a fact univerſal over the whole kingdom; cities, towns, and country ſeats; but the preſent is the æra for this improvement, there being now far more elegant ſeats riſing than ever were known before.

ROADS.

The roads of Ireland may be ſaid all to have originated from Mr. French's preſentment bill, and are now in a ſtate that do honour to the kingdom; there has been probably expended in conſequence of that bill, conſiderably above a million ſterling.

TOWNS.

The towns of Ireland have very much increaſed in the laſt twenty years; all public regiſters prove this, and it is a ſtrong mark of riſing proſperity. Towns are markets which enrich and cultivate the country, and can therefore never depopulate it, as ſome viſionary theoriſts have pretended. The country is always the moſt populous within the ſphere of great cities, if I may uſe the expreſſion, and the increaſed cultivation of the remoteſt corners, ſhew that this ſphere extends like the circulating undulations of water until they reach the moſt diſtant ſhores. Beſides towns can only increaſe from an increaſe of manufactures, commerce and luxury; all three are other words for riches and employment, and theſe again for a general increaſe of people.

RISE OF RENTS.

The minutes of the journey ſhew, that the rents of land have at leaſt doubled in twenty-five years, which is a moſt unerring proof of a great proſperity. The riſe of rents proves a variety of circumſtances all favourable; that there is more capital to cultivate land; that there is a greater demand for the products of the earth, and conſequently a higher price; that towns thrive, and are therefore able to pay higher prices; that manufactures and foreign commerce increaſe; the variations of the rent of land, from the boundleſs and fertile plains of the Miſſiſſippi, where it yields none, to the province of Holland, where every foot is valuable, ſhews the gradations of wealth, power and importance, between the one territory and the other. The preſent rental of Ireland appeared to be 5,293,312l. and for reaſons before given, probably not leſs than ſix millions.

MANUFACTURES.

Linens the great fabric of the kingdom for exportation, have increaſed rapidly.

	l.	l.
The export from 1750 to 1756, in value of cloth and yarn was,	904,479	
Ditto from 1757 to 1763,	1,166,136	
Increaſe,		261,657
From 1764 to 1770,	1,379,512	
Increaſe,		213,376
From 1771 to 1777,	1,615,654	
Increaſe,		236,142
From 1771 to 1777,	1,615,654	
From 1750 to 1756,	904,479	
Increaſe,		711,175
Thirty years ſince 1748 greater than thirty years before, by		810,548

COMMERCE.

Trade in Ireland, in all its branches, has increaſed greatly in twenty-five years; this has been a natural effect from the other articles of proſperity already enumerated.

	l.
The Iriſh exports to Great-Britain, on an average of twenty-five years before 1748, were,	438,665
Ditto on twenty-five years ſince,	965,050
Increaſe,	526,385

This greateſt article of her trade has therefore more than doubled.

Export to Great-Britain per annum for the laſt ſeven years,	1,240,677
The preceding ſeven years,	917,088
	323,569

The greateſt exports of Ireland, on an average of the laſt ſeven years, are

Linen,	1,615,654
The product of oxen and cows,	1,218,902
Ditto of ſheep,	200,413
Ditto of hogs,	150,631
Ditto of corn	64,871
	3,250,471

Her total exports are probably three millions and a half. The balance of trade in her favour muſt be above a million.*

CONSUMPTION.

A people always conſume in proportion to their wealth, hence an increaſe in the one marks clearly that of the other. The following table will ſhew ſeveral of the principal articles of Iriſh conſumption.

Years.

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* *Mr. Gordon, ſurveyor general of Munſter, favoured me with an account of the trade which made the total exports in* 1772 *to amount to*

	l.	s.	d.
	5,167,159	2	0
The imports, —	2,147,079	3	2
Balance, —	3,020,079	18	10

But the above table clearly proves that this is exaggerated, for the exports not included in my account can never amount to two millions.

If her balance, however, was not above a million, it would be impoſſible for her to pay 800,000 *l. in abſentees and penſions, beſides offices, intereſt of money, &c. &c. to do that, and yet increaſe as ſhe has done in wealth, it ſhould be near* 1,200,000 *l.*

Years.	*Beer, ale and porter barrels, at 32 gallons,*	*Brandy, gallons.*	*Rum, gallons.*	*Sugar, Muſcov.*	*Tea, lbs.*	*Tobacco, lbs.*	*Wine, tons.*
1750			439.302		ᴀ 179,641		
1751			700,905		130,306		
1752			513.266		191,566		
1753			784,945		140,465		
1754			987,122		166,558	* 3,574,037	
1755			507,864		199,938	* 4,154,203	
1756	13,572		815,887		163,693	* 3,424,359	
			678,470		167,451		
1757	10,949		§ 511,682		ᴀ 104,926	† 4,769,975	
1758	15,222		534,692		‡ 117,111	† 4,958,721	
1759	16,517		820,915		‖ 129,673	† 3,662,246	
1760	13,500		249.197				
1761	18,837		341,975				
1762	18,007		656,531				
1763	22,099		691,027				
	16,447		543,717				
1764	28,935	657,037	913,120	167,011	204.891	5,725.777	4,685
1765	27,787	757,105	1,230,840	129,331	236,908	4,431,801	6.416
1766	32.440	651,943	1,480,697	133.249	297,988	6,049,270	5,938
1767	29,487	770,319	1,667,540	133,829	183,267	4,083,379	5,683
1768	40,542	685,661	1,873,273	181,924	239,800	4,346,769	5,786
1769	45.452	420,584	2,100,419	183,337	1,007,693	4,842,197	5,870
1770	38,439	437.437	1,640.791	183,245	1,130,486	5,445.942	5,129
Average,	34,726	625,726	1,558,097	158,846	471,576	4.988,162	5,643
1771	44,104	408,011	2,035,388	176,924	913,296	5,012,979	4,948
1772	47.735	374,144	1,973,731	188,260	741,762	5,525,849	4,63
1773	58,675	310,025	1,704,557	201,109	839.218	5,231,714	5,425
1774	51,995	395 740	1,503.086	171,347	1,207,764	5,434,924	5,709
1775	53,906	556,133	1,322,506	205,858	1,041,517	3,949,740	4,698
1776	⸸ 65,922	,03,706	1,888,068	238,746	680,526	5,379,405	4,521
1777	⸸ 70,382	479,996	1,680.233	193,258	704,221	3,916,409	4,646
Average,	56,102	289,679	1,729,652	196,500	875,472	4.921,572	4.941

⸸ *Theſe two years are only of beer.*

§ *The following years differ in another account, Com. Jour. vol.* 14. *p.* 141.

			gallons.
In the year	1757	*Rum,*	513,193
	1758	——	618,945
	1759	——	903,809
	1760	——	275,732
	1761	——	370,011

† *Commons journal, vol.* 11. *p.* 179.

‖ *Ibid. p.* 180.

‡ *Ibid. p.* 169.

* *Ibid. p.* 169.

ᴀ *Commons journals, vol. p.* 318,

The articles of beer, rum, and ſugar, are greatly increaſed; tea quadrupled; wine having leſſened, is certainly owing to the increaſed ſobriety of the kingdom, which muſt have made a difference in the import. The imports of ſilks and woollen goods given on a former occaſion, ſpoke the ſame language of increaſed conſumption.

SPECIE.

The ſpecie of Ireland, gold and ſilver, is calculated by the Dublin bankers at 1,600,000 l.

POPULATION.

This article, which in ſo many treatiſes is reckoned to be the only object worth attention, I put the laſt of all, not as being unimportant, but depending totally on the preceding articles. It is perfectly needleſs to ſpeak of population, after ſhewing that agriculture is improved, manufactures and commerce increaſed, and the general appearance of the kingdom carrying the face of a riſing proſperity; it follows inevitably from all this, that the people muſt have increaſed; and accordingly the information, from one end of the iſland to the other, confirmed it: but no country ſhould wiſh for population in the firſt inſtance, let it flow from an increaſe of induſtry and employment, and it will be valuable; but population that ariſes, ſuppoſing it poſſible, without it, ſuch a cauſe would, inſtead of being valuable, prove uſeleſs, probably pernicious: population therefore, ſingly taken, ought never to be an enquiry at all; there is not even any ſtrength reſulting from numbers without wealth, to arm, ſupport, pay, and diſcipline them. The hearth tax in 1778 produced 61,646l. which cannot indicate a leſs population, exceptions included, than three millions. The minutes of ſouls, per cabbin, at Caſtle Caldwell, Drumoland, and Kilſane, gave 6 and 6½.

Upon the whole, we may ſafely determine, that judging by thoſe appearances and circumſtances which have been generally agreed to mark the proſperity or declenſion of a country, that Ireland has ſince the year 1748 made as great advances as could poſſibly be expected, perhaps greater than any other country in Europe

Since that period her linen exports have juſt TREBLED.

Her general exports to Great Britain more than DOUBLED.

The rental of the kingdom DOUBLED.

And I may add, that her linen and general exports have increaſed proportionably to this in the laſt ſeven years, conſequently her wealth is at preſent on a like increaſe.

SECTION XXIV.

State of Ireland, brought down to the End of the Year 1779—*Diſtreſſes—Free Trade—Obſervations—Armed Aſſociations.*

THE preceding ſections have been written near a twelvemonth, events have ſince happened which are of an importance that will not permit me to paſs them by in ſilence, much as I wiſh to do it. The moment of national expectation and heat is ſeldom that of cool diſcuſſion. When the minds of men are in a ferment, queſtions originally ſimple, become complex from forced combinations. To publiſh opinions, however candidly formed, at ſuch times, is a moſt unpleaſant buſineſs, for it is almoſt impoſſible to avoid cenſure; but as a dead ſilence upon events of ſuch importance would look either like ignorance or affectation, I ſhall lay before the reader the reſult of my own reſearches.

Upon the meeting of the Iriſh parliament in October laſt, the great topic which ſeemed to engroſs all their attention was the diſtreſs of the kingdom and the remedy demanded—*A free trade*. In the preceding papers Ireland exhibits the picture of a country, perhaps the moſt riſing in proſperity of any in Europe, the data upon which that idea was formed, were brought down to Lady-day 1778. I muſt therefore naturally enquire into the circumſtances of a ſituation which ſeems to have changed ſo ſuddenly, and to ſo great a degree. I have taken every meaſure to gain whatever proofs I could of the real declenſion in Ireland during this period, and I find the circumſtance of the revenue producing ſo much leſs than uſual, particularly inſiſted on, the following is the ſtate of it.

The greateſt declenſion is in theſe articles:

In the years,	1776.	1777.	1778.	1779.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Cuſtoms inwards,	248,491	251,055	198,550	165,802
Cuſtoms outwards,	42,488	35,883	36,027	31,717
Import exciſe,	152,238	153,727	131,284	106,070
Wine, *firſt*,	15,825	16,134	13,497	8,933

The totals are as follow, including the hereditary revenue, old and new additional duties, ſtamps, and appropriated duties.

In the years,	1776.	1777.	1778.	1779.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Totals,	1,040,055	1,093,881	968,683	862,823

The total decline in the laſt year amounts to about one hundred thouſand pounds, and from the particulars it appears to lie on the import account; for as to the fall of five thouſand pounds on the export cuſtoms, it is very trivial, thoſe diſtreſſes which have, by aſſociations or naturally, ſo immediate an effect in cutting off the expences of importation, while exports remain nearly as they were, have a wonderful tendency to produce a cure the moment the diſeaſe is known; for that balance of wealth, ariſing from ſuch an account, muſt animate every branch of induſtry in a country, whoſe greateſt evil is the want of capital and circulation.

Generally ſpeaking, a declining revenue is a proof of declining wealth; but the preſent caſe is ſo ſtrong an exception, that the very contrary is the fact; the Iriſh were very free and liberal conſumers of foreign commodities; they have greatly curtailed that conſumption, not from poverty, for their exports have many of them increaſed, and none declined comparably with their imports, circumſtances marked by the courſe of exchange being much in their favour, as well as by theſe and other accounts; this liberal conſumption being leſſened from other motives, they are neceſſarily accumulating a conſiderable ſuperlucration of wealth, which in ſpite of fate will revive their revenues, while it increaſes every exertion of their national induſtry.

In the years -	1776.	1777.	1778.	1779.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the above account, cuſtoms inwards, import exciſe, and wine duty, added together amount to theſe ſums, being, -	416,554	420,906	343,331	280,802
Cuſtoms outwards,	42,488	35,883	36,027	31,717

From 1777 to 1778, the cuſtoms on their exports increaſed, but their cuſtoms on imports declined above 77,000 l. From 1778 to 1779 the former fell 4,310 l. or more than a ninth, at the ſame time the import duty fell 63,000l. or a fifth; this difference in theſe articles is very great, and if all the heads of the revenue were included, it would be more ſtill.

It is not ſurprizing that the national debt ſhould increaſe while the revenue declines. At lady-day 1779, it amounted to 1,062,597l. which is more than in 1777, by 237,171l.

But the decline of the revenue has by no means been general, as will be ſeen by the following table of articles, which have been upon the riſe.

In

In the Years, —	1776	1777	1778	1779
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Ale licences, —	7,272	7,182	7,363	7,511
Wine and ſtrong water ditto,	19,563	19,984	20,823	20,298
Hearth money, —	60,966	60,580	61,646	60,617
Tea duty reſidues,	4,404	4,590	7,300	5,747
Tobacco, —	58,046	51,453	47,698	52,558
Strong waters, third,	5,659	18,586	18,782	18,233
Stamps, —	19,725	20,784	21,174	21,316
Hops, —	2,141	3,984	2,427	4,012

All of which, except the article of ſtamps, are laid upon the great conſumption of the common people; whatever diſtreſs, therefore, is marked by a falling revenue, the lower claſſes do not ſeem, fortunately, to have ſuffered proportionably with the higher ones. But let us farther enquire how far the declenſion of revenue is owing to an increaſe of poverty; and how far to a forced artificial meaſure, that of aſſociations for non-import. Theſe have been very general in Ireland during 1779, and muſt have had a conſiderable effect. In order to underſtand the queſtion, the facts themſelves muſt be ſeen; the following tables will explain them. The revenue of Ireland, is raiſed chiefly on the import of ſpirits, tea, wine, tobacco and ſugar.

	Coals.	*Muſcovado ſugar.*	*Brandy.*	*Geneva.*	*Rum.*
	Tons.	*Cwt.*	*Gallons.*	*Gallons.*	*Gallons.*
In the Year 1776	217,938	238,746	403,706	153,430	1,888,058
1777	240,893	193,258	479,996	137,474	1,680,233
1778	237,101	139,816	226,434	144,438	1,234,502
1779	219,992	145,540	180,705	87,420	1,183,865

	Tea. Bohea.	*Tea. Green.*	*Wines of all ſorts.*	*Tobacco.*
	lb.	*lb.*	*Tons.*	*lb.*
In the Year 1776	308,558	371,968	5,075	5,379,405
1777	359,475	344,726	5,129	3,916,409
1778	336,470	479,115	4,319	3,629,056
1779	402,594	375,269	2,806	4,038,479

The great decline is in ſpirits and wine. Tea has not fallen upon the whole; and tobacco in 1779 is ſuperior to 1778. Sugar ſince 1776 is much fallen, but from 1778 to 1779 there is a riſe. Coals are tolerably equal. The ſtrongeſt circumſtance is that of wine, which has fallen very greatly indeed. The principal cauſe of the decline of the revenue is to be found in theſe imports. The remark I made before ſeems to be ſtrongly confirmed, that the diſtreſs of Ireland ſeems more to have affected the higher than the lower claſſes; wine, green tea and brandy, are fallen off conſiderably, but tobacco, bohea tea, and muſcovado ſugar, are increaſed from 1778 to 1779. This is ſtrongly confirmed by the import of loaf ſugar having falling while muſcovado has riſen: the loaf in 1776 is 8,907 cwt. in 1777 it is 15,928 cwt. in 1778 it is 12,365 cwt. but in 1779 it is only 5,931 cwt. Other inſtances may be produced: imported millenery, a mere article of luxury for people of faſhion, has fallen greatly: Engliſh beer, conſumed by the better ranks, declines much, but hops for Iriſh beer, which is drank by the lower ones, has riſen exceedingly.

	Hops.	*Millenary. ware.*	*Beer.*
	Cwt.	*Value.* l.	*Barrels.*
In the year 1776	9,694	13,758	65,922
1777	18,067	16,881	70,382
1778	10,974	15,667	68,960
1779	18,191	8,317	47,437

From this circumſtance I draw a very ſtrong concluſion, that rents are not paid as well as they ought, and that tenants and agents make a pretence of bad times to an extent far beyond the fact. The common expreſſion of *bad times* does ſome miſchief of this kind in England, but in Ireland it is much more effective, eſpecially in excuſes ſent to abſentees inſtead of remittances.

The great decline of the import of Britiſh manufactures and goods, which is remarkable, muſt be attributed to the non-import aſſociations bearing particularly againſt them; they have dropped ſo much, that we may hope the Iriſh manufactures, they have interfered with, may have riſen in conſequence,

	New drapery.	*Old drapery.*	*Muſlin.*	*Silk manufac.*
	Yds.	*Yds.*	*Yds.*	*lb.*
In the year 1776	676,485	290,215	116,552	17,326
1777	731,819	381,330	162,663	24,187
1778	741,426	378,077	121,934	27,223
1779	270,839	176,196	44,507	15,794

In moſt of theſe articles we find ſuch a decline of import, that there is no wonder the revenue ſhould have ſuffered. If it is ſaid, that this decreaſed import is to be attributed to a preceding poverty, it will only throw back the period of enquiry into the years diſcuſſed in a preceding ſection, and from which no national decline can by any means be deduced.

Some articles of import, however, contain ſuch a decline, as induces me to think there muſt be more diſtreſs than appears from others. The following are the objects I fix on.

	Flax-Seed.	*Hemp-Seed.*	*Clover-Seed.*	*Raw-Silk.*	*Cotton Wool.*	*Mohair Yarn.*
	Hhds.	*Hhds.*	*Cwt.*	*lb.*	*Cwt.*	*lb.*
Year 1776	24,077	150	4,648	41,594	3,860	29,345
1777	32,613	159	5,988	54,043	4,569	27,424
1778	37,211	106	5,664	51,873	4,565	18,327
1779	20,419	69	3,852	29,633	1,345	4,552

Theſe are demanded by the agriculture, or the manufactures of the kingdom, and are the laſt that ought to fall.

The declenſion in the trade of Ireland is not, however, in imports only, there is a great decline in many export articles, enough to convince any one that all is not right in that country; the following particulars will ſhew this.

	Beef.	*Hides.*	*Tallow.*	*Butter.*	*Pork.*	*Hog's lard.*	*Candles.*
	barrels.	*No.*	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*	*barrels.*	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*
In the Year 1776	203,685	108,574	50,549	272,411	72,714	3,216	3,154
1777	168,578	84,391	48,502	264,181	72,931	2,981	1,764
1778	190,695	79,531	38,450	258,144	77,612	3,428	938
1779	138,918	55,823	41,384	227,829	70,066	3,527	1,827

It is ſome conſolation that hogs have not experienced the declenſion which has attended oxen and cows. The article beef puzzles me. I have been informed, that for theſe two years, all government contracts for beef, &c. have not been entered on the cuſtomhouſe books, by an order of Mr. Gordon, the ſurveyor general; if this is the fact it accounts for the heavieſt articles in this declenſion. The circumſtance that the export of ox horns has ſcarcely declined at all; that the export of ox guts has greatly increaſed, and that glew has riſen, would juſtify one in ſuppoſing that ſomething of this ſort muſt have affected the accounts of beef, &c.

	Ox horns.	*Ox guts.*	*Glew.*
	Cwt.	*Barrels.*	*Cwt.*
In the year 1776	577	141	1,025
1777	338	243	1,215
1778	928	171	1,127
1779	896	350	1,154*

I need not obſerve, that the greateſt export of proviſions from Ireland by far is to Great Britain, eſpecially in time of war: now the accounts which have been laid on the table of our houſe of commons do not admit the ſame concluſions as the Iriſh accounts, owing probably to ſome circumſtances with which we are not fully acquainted, if not to the identical one I have mentioned. The following particulars are extracted from the accounts brought in by Lord North.

IMPORTS FROM IRELAND.

	Value of beef.	*Value of butter.*	*Value of tallow.*	*Value of pork.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1768	55,802	173,259	52,557	28,609
1769	55,107	260,357	45,635	18,544
1770	51,695	149,464	44,928	22,240
1771	64,072	236,403	43,274	25,504
1772	48,434	204,810	17,419	22,401
1773	45,364	229,528	43,230	30,198
1774	46,064	211,152	38,247	21,836
1775	50,299	245,624	46,398	40,358
1776	95,194	237,926	48,072	42,737
1777	106,915	274,535	41,695	29,575
1778	106,202	210,986	39,209	37,981

As far as this account comes, for the year 1779 is not in it, here is almoſt every appearance of increaſe, or at leaſt the decline where there is any, is much too inconſiderable to found any concluſions on. Let us examine manufactured exports from the ſame account.

In

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* *The preceding tables in this ſection are taken from a MS. account of exp. and imp. communicated by William Eden, Eſq.*

	Linen.		*Linen yarn raw.*		*Bay yarn.*	
	Yards.	*Value.*	*lb.*	*Value.*	*Cwt.*	*Value.*
In the year 1768	15,249,248	500,778	4,794,926	209,778	21,043	47.426
1769	16,496,271	549,875	4,107,478	179,702	19,332	43,580
1770	18,195,087	606,502	5,240,687	229,280	19,903	44,864
1771	20,622,217	687,407	4,035,756	176,564	18,598	41,894
1772	19,171,771	639,059	3,608,424	157,649	14,828	33,421
1773	17,876,617	595,887	3,082,274	134,869	11,073	24,964
1774	21,447,198	714,906	4,660.833	203,911	12,549	28,289
1775	21,916,171	730,539	4,363,582	190,906	13,882	31,294
1776	20,943,847	698,128	3,914,351	171,252	18,091	40,778
1777	21,132,548	704,418	3,198,437	139,931	17,897	40,269
1778	18,869,447	628,981	3,788,603	165,751	15,053	33,870

From hence we find that theſe articles have not fallen off ſo much as might from many reaſons have been expected. Linen yarn has riſen from 1777 to 1778 conſiderably. Cloth has fallen, but not enough to give any alarm. From 1770 to 1771 in linen yarn was almoſt as great a fall without any ill effects enſuing. The following table contains the total export from Ireland.

EXPORT OF LINEN, YARN, &c.

	Linen Cloth.	*Linen Yarn.*	*WorſtedYarn*
	Yards.	*Cwt.*	*Stones.*
In the year 1776	20,502,587	36,152	86,527
1777	19,714,638	29,698	114,703
1778	21,945,729	28,108	122,755
1779	18,836,042	35,673	100,939

Which does not mark any ſuch decline as happened upon the bankruptcy of Mr. Fordyce. It is remarkable from theſe two accounts how great a proportion of the exported linen of Ireland is taken off by England, in the year 1776 it abſorbed the whole. Indeed it appears to have more than done it, which apparent error ariſes from the Iriſh accounts ending at Lady day, and the Engliſh ones the 31ſt of December. But in order to explain this buſineſs as much as poſſible, I ſhall in the next place inſert the Engliſh account of all the exports and imports to and from Ireland.

	Exports to Ireland of Engliſh manufacture, foreign goods and merchandize, in and out of time, and exported from Scotland.	*Goods and merchandize imported from Ireland to England.*	*Balance againſt Ireland.*
	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1768	2,248,314	1,226,094	1,022,220
1769	2,347,801	1,542,253	805,548
1770	2,544,737	1,358,899	1,185,838
1771	2,436,853	1,547,237	889,616
1772	2,396,152	1,416,285	979,867
1773	2,123,705	1,392,759	730,046
1774	2,414,666	1,573,345	841,321
1775	2,401,686	1,641,069	760,617
1776	2,461,290	1,654,226	807,064
1777	2,211,689	1,639,871	571,818
1778	1,731,808	1,510,881	220,927

In the year 1768, the export and import between Scotland and Ireland is not included, but in the reſt it is. This table is drawn from the accounts laid before parliament at the cloſe of the ſeſſions of $177\frac{8}{9}$, relative to the valuation here followed of the cuſtomhouſe, I ſhould remark it has been ſuppoſed, that the *real* balance is in favour of Ireland, nothwithſtanding the valuation ſpeaks the contrary, and Lord North in December laſt gave this as his information to the houſe of commons. But taking the account as it ſtands here, it muſt evidently appear that the diſtreſſes which have come upon Ireland within the laſt year or two, do not in the ſmalleſt degree originate in her commercial connections with England, for during the laſt nine or ten years her balance has grown leſs and leſs. From 1776 to 77 it ſunk 230,000 l.; and from 77 to 78 it fell 350,000 l. If therefore Ireland was proſperous while ſhe paid us a balance of 7, 8, and 900,000 l. a year, ſurely ſhe ought not to be more diſtreſſed under leſs than a fourth of it? That kingdom muſt upon the face of this account have had a ſuperlucration of wealth ariſing of late years upon this trade to a very great amount. But this account does not include the year 1779, of which upon the general payments between the two kingdoms I have no other authority than to mention the courſe of exchange. Mr. Eden obſerves *(Four letters to the Earl of Carliſle)* that during the year 1778 and 1779, the exchange of Dublin on London has varied from $5\frac{1}{4}$ to $7\frac{1}{8}$ par is $8\frac{1}{3}$. October 27, 1779 it was at $6\frac{1}{4}$, which is remarkably low, and proves that Ireland muſt have been accumulating wealth through that period.

The reader will naturally remark, that theſe are all external authorities: ſome of them ſeem to mark a diſtreſs in Ireland, but others ſpeak very ſtrongly a direct contrary language; it remains to be obſerved, that the interior authorities have been much inſiſted on. It has been aſſerted, and by very reſpectable perſons, that rents have fallen, lands untenanted, prices low*, people unemployed, and poverty univerſal. The misfortune of theſe circumſtances when produced as argument, is that they admit no proof. I aſk for figures and you give me anecdote: my lord this is ruined — the duke of t'other cannot afford to live at Dublin, the earl of A. has no remittances, Mr. C. has 18,000l. arrears. This is a repetition of the complaints which the Engliſh houſe of commons heard ſo much of in 1773. I am very far from denying them, but only deſire that *aſſertions* may not be accepted as *proofs*. They are national complaints when a new ſyſtem of policy is called for, the palpable conſequence of which is, that they are exaggerated—ſuch complaints always were, and always will exceed the truth.

Let it not however be imagined, that I contend Ireland ſuffers none, or very little diſtreſs: while we ſee very great diſtreſſes in England we need not wonder that Ireland ſhould, though in a leſs degree, ſuffer likewiſe. We ſee the funds have in a few years fallen 27 per cent. The years purchaſe of land reduced from 33 to 23. The prices of all products fallen from 30 to 100 per cent. Wheat from 7s. to 3s. a buſhel; other grain in proportion. Wool from 18s. to 12s. all greatly owing to the ſcarcity of money ariſing from the high intereſt paid for the public loans: I can hardly conceive thoſe operations to have drawn money from the channels of induſtry in every part of this iſland, without likewiſe affecting our neighbour, much of whoſe national induſtry was, if not *ſupported*, at leaſt much aſſiſted by Engliſh capitals. Therefore, from reaſoning, I ſhould ſuppoſe they muſt have been ſomewhat diſtreſſed, but the preceding facts will not permit me to imagine that diſtreſs to be any thing like what is repreſented,

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* *January* 24, 1780. *I have this minute received from my very obliging friend Mr. Bolton (member for Waterford) the following note:*

" Butter has been here (*Waterford*) *all this winter at* 42*s. per cwt. Pork at the beginning of the winter* 23*s. to* 23*s.* 9*d. from that it roſe by degrees, and is now* 26*s.* 6*d. per cwt." The butter is very low, lower than for ten years; but pork keeps up its price. At Limerick the minutes ſhew that* 29*s.* 3*d. is a very high price, and that* 12*s. was the price only eleven years ago. I am yet in hopes, from an expreſſion in Mr. Bolton's letter, to receive the price of other commodities before the work is entirely finiſhed at preſs.*

ſented, at the ſame time that they ſhew it is in many articles wearing out even while the complaints are loudeſt.

Admitting ſome diſtreſs, and connecting it with the general ſtate of the kingdom rather than peculiarly to the preſent moment, I may be aſked *to what is it owing?* The preceding ſections have been an anſwer to that queſtion, but to bring their reſult into a very ſhort compaſs I ſhould here obſerve, that the cauſes which have impeded the progreſs of Iriſh proſperity are,

I. The oppreſſion of the catholics, which by loading the induſtry of two millions of ſubjects have done more to retard the progreſs of the kingdom than all other cauſes put together.

II. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, which by changing a beneficial paſturage to an execrable tillage at a heavy expence to the public, has done much miſchief to the kingdom, beſides involving it in debt.

III. The perpetual interference of parliament in every branch of domeſtic induſtry, either for laying reſtrictions or giving bounties, but always doing miſchief.

IV. The mode of conducting the linen manufacture, which by ſpreading over all the north has annihilated agriculture throughout a fourth part of the kingdom, and taken from a great and flouriſhing manufacture the uſual effect of being an *encouragement* to every branch of huſbandry.

V. The ſtoppage of emigrations for five years which has accumulated a ſurplus of population, and thereby diſtreſſed thoſe who are rivalled by their ſtaying at home §.

VI. The ill judged reſtrictions laid by Great Britain on the commerce of Ireland which have prevented the general induſtry of the country from being animated proportionably with that of others.

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§ *This ſingle circumſtance is ſufficient to account for any diſtreſs that may be found in the north. Men who emigrate are from the nature of the circumſtance the moſt active, hardy, daring, bold, and reſolute ſpirits, and probably the moſt miſchievous alſo. The intelligence in the minutes, ſpeaks that language; it was every year the looſe, diſorderly, worthleſs fellows that emigrated; upon an average of twenty years the number was four or five thouſand; but from the great increaſing population of the country, the number in the four or five years laſt paſt, would have been greater. At any rate here muſt be from twenty-five to forty thouſand of the moſt diſorderly worthleſs ſpirits accumulated, much againſt their wills, at home, and are fully ſufficient to account for violence and riots, much more for clamour and complaint.*

VII. The great drain of the rents of abſentees eſtates being remitted to England, which has an effect, but I believe not quite ſo miſchievous as commonly ſuppoſed.

Is it upon the whole to be concluded, relative to the preſent moment, that the freedom of trade now giving to Ireland, is a wrong meaſure? I by no means either think or aſſert ſuch an opinion. In the preceding ſections I have repeatedly endeavoured to ſhew, that no policy was ever more abſurd than the reſtricting ſyſtem of England, which has been as prejudicial to herſelf as to Ireland; but becauſe a meaſure is wiſe and prudent, is it proper to admit for truths facts which do not appear to be founded? The queſtion of political prudence is a queſtion only of the moment; but to admit circumſtances to ſpeak a national declenſion, which prove no ſuch thing, is laying the foundation of future deception; it is bringing falſe principles into the political ſcience, in a point than which none can be more important, aſcertaining the circumſtances relative to all future caſes as well as the preſent, which prove the proſperity or declenſion of a kingdom. And here the reader will, I hope, pardon a digreſſion on the conduct of one ſet of men in the preſent noiſe of diſtreſs; it is a circumſtance in the ſtate of Ireland, that ſhould make more impreſſion upon the country gentlemen of that kingdom than it does: they have united with merchants and manufacturers in the violent cry for a free trade, and they have regularly in parliament promoted all thoſe viſionary and expenſive projects ſet on foot by intereſted people, for giving premiums and bounties, to the amount of above an hundred thouſand pounds a year, and which alone accounts for the whole of that national debt, and declining revenue, which will make many new taxes neceſſary. The Iriſh are a grateful and a loyal people, and will not receive this free trade without making a return for it; that can only be in taxation; nay, they already ſpeak in parliament of a return. Thus have the country gentlemen of that kingdom been ſuch dupes, as to agree to meaſures for running themſelves in debt, and have joined in the cry for a favour, which I have ſhewn cannot be of any conſiderable uſe perhaps for half a century, but for which they are immediately to pay a ſolid return, and if that return takes the ſhape of a land tax, they have nobody to thank but themſelves. What I would conclude from this is, and would urge it as a leſſon for the future, that it is always for the benefit of the landed intereſt TO BE QUIET. Let merchants and manufacturers complain, riot, aſſociate, and do whatever they pleaſe, but never unite with them, reſtrain but never inflame them. The whole tenour of the preceding minutes proves that Ireland has flouriſhed for theſe laſt thirty years to an uncommon degree, I believe more than any country

try in Europe. Was not this enough? Was not this a reaſon for being ſilent and ſtill? Why ſubmit to a temporary diſtreſs, rather than by loud complaints, bring the ſtate and ſituation of your country into queſtion at all? Why demand uſeleſs favours in order to pay ſolid returns? During the whole flow of your proſperity what have been the additional burthens laid on you in taxation? Every country in Europe has added to thoſe burthens conſiderably, England immenſely, but you not at all, or to ſo trifling an amount as to be the ſame thing. Could your moſt ſanguine hopes picture a more happy ſituation? And yet to yourſelves are you indebted for bounties on the carriage of corn, for premiums on corn ſtands, for ideal navigations through bogs to convey turf to Whitehaven, for collieries where there is no coal, for bridges where there are no rivers, navigable cuts where there is no water, harbours where there are no ſhips, and churches where there are no congregations ‡. Party may have dictated ſuch meaſures, in order to render government poor and dependent; but rely on it, ſuch a conduct was for their own, not your advantage, as the abſolute neceſſity of new taxes will moſt feelingly convince you. Thus have you been duped by one ſet into meaſures, which have impoveriſhed the public and burthened you with a debt; and becauſe another deſcription of men ſuffer a diſtreſs, in its very nature temporary, you join in their cry to buy that, which if any good aroſe from it, would be theirs §, while you only are to pay the piper. Henceforward, therefore, execrate, ſilence, confound, and abaſh the men, who raiſe clamours at diſtreſſes, whether real or imaginary; you know from the progreſſive proſperity of your country, that ſuch cannot be radical; weighty experience has told you alſo, that you may have to pay for relief that goes but imaginarily to others, in giving up your ſolid gold for their ideal profits. Reflect that the great period of your increaſing wealth was a time of quiet and ſilence, and that

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‡ *The aſſertion is not founded on the following charge in the national accounts* 1779, *though one might preſume ſomething upon it:*

	l.
To the board of firſt fruits for building new churches, and rebuilding old churches in ſuch pariſhes as no divine public ſervice has been performed for twenty years paſt, ——— ———	6000

§ *I am well aware of what may be here ſaid upon the advantage of landlords being in proportion to the proſperity of manufactures and commerce: in general it certainly is ſo, and always when things are left to take their natural courſe, but when they riſe above the tenour of that ſmooth quiet current, the concluſion may not be juſt: all the meaſures condemned in the text are forced and artificial.*

you did not complain of poverty until you were proved to be a golden object of taxation. Ponder well on theſe facts and be in future ſilent.

That the meaſure of giving freedom to the Iriſh commerce is a wiſe one, I have not a doubt; but I muſt own, I regret its not having been done upon principles of ſound policy, rather than at a time when it can bear the conſtruction, true or falſe, of being extorted; and this leads me to one or two obſervations on the armed aſſociations, which have made too much noiſe in England.

If ill founded apprehenſions have led the legiſlature of Britain to do now what it ought to have done long ago, the effect is beneficial to both countries; but I cannot admit that it is merely giving charity to a ſturdy beggar, who frightens us by the brandiſhing and ſize of his crutch. To ſuppoſe that Great Britain is at the mercy of Ireland, and that an Iriſh *congreſs* may ariſe, ſupported by forty thouſand bayonets, is mere idle declamation; we have the ſtrongeſt reaſon entirely to reject ſuch ideas, becauſe it could not poſſibly end in any thing but the ruin of Ireland; the very conflict would arreſt all that proſperity which has been gradually flowing in upon her for theſe thirty years paſt, and leave her expoſed, a divided †, weakened people, open to the attack of every potent neighbour. What a ſenſeleſs, military mob, led by men who have nothing to loſe, would wiſh or attempt, may be doubted; but that military aſſociations, officered and commanded by men of the firſt property, who have not named a grievance without redreſs following, and who have experienced more favour from three ſeſſions of the Britiſh parliament than from three centuries before.—To ſuppoſe that ſuch men, having every thing to loſe by public confuſion, but nothing to gain, would ſo entirely turn their back to the moſt powerful pleadings of their own intereſt and that of their country, is to ſuppoſe a caſe which never did nor ever will happen.

Apprehenſions of any extremities are idle, but there is this misfortune in a ſeries of conceſſions, not given to reaſon, but to clamour, that they rather invite new demands than ſatisfy old ones; and from this circumſtance reſults the great ſuperiority of coming at once to a univerſal explanation, and agreeing either to a union, or to ſuch a modification of one, as I ſtated in ſection XXII.

In the next place let me enquire what degree of relief, (ſuppoſing the diſtreſſes of that kingdom to be as they may) will reſult from the freedom lately given to the Iriſh in reſpect to their woollen and American trades, which will naturally lead me to the queſtion, whether any prejudice is likely to reſult to England.

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† *Thoſe who are ſo wild as for a moment to conceive an idea of this ſort, muſt ſurely have forgot the Roman catholics in that kingdom. It would be eaſy to enlarge on this point, but for every reaſon improper.*

Whatever the diſtreſs may be in Ireland, it appears that theſe freedoms will not ſtrike immediately at the evil, nor bring any conſiderable remedy; they are general favours, and not applicable to the diſtreſs of the time; this ought to be well underſtood in Ireland, becauſe falſe hopes lead only to diſappointment. It was highly proper to repeal thoſe reſtrictions; but it is every day in the power of the Iriſh to render to themſelves much more important ſervices. In order to convert their new ſituation to immediate advantage, they muſt eſtabliſh woollen fabrics for the new markets opened to them; thoſe already in the kingdom I cannot ſuppoſe to be exported for this plain reaſon—they are rivalled in their own markets by ſimilar manufactures from England, I mean particularly fine broad clothes and ratteens; if the Iriſh fabrics cannot ſtand the competition of ours in the market of Dublin, while they have a heavy land carriage in England, freight, commiſſion, and duties on landing; and while the Iriſh cloth has a great bounty by the Dublin Society to encourage it, they certainly will not be able to oppoſe us in foreign markets, where we meet on equal terms; this removes the expected advantage to *new* fabrics, which, let me obſerve, require new capitals, new eſtabliſhments, new exertions, and new difficulties to be overcome, and all this in a country where the old eſtabliſhed and flouriſhing fabric could ſcarcely be ſupported without Engliſh credit. It may farther be obſerved, that the reaſon why that credit and ſupport have been given to the linen of Ireland, is its being a fabric not interfering with thoſe of Britain, it is a different manufacture, demanded for different purpoſes. Had it been otherwiſe, the ſuperiority of Engliſh capitals, and the advantage of long eſtabliſhed ſkill and induſtry, would have cruſhed the competition of the Iriſh linen; as in future they *will* cruſh any competition in woollens if of the ſame kinds we manufacture ourſelves. When the capital of Ireland becomes much larger, when new habits of induſtry are introduced, and when time has eſtabliſhed new funds of ſkill, then new fabrics may be undertaken with advantage, but it muſt be a work of time, and can no more operate as a remedy to preſent evils, than any ſcheme of the moſt viſionary nature. Their Weſt-India trade, I believe, will I believe be of as little ſervice; every thing in commerce depends on capital; in order to ſend ſhips freighted with Iriſh comodities to thoſe colonies, reloaded with Weſt-India goods, capital and credit are neceſſary; they have it not for new trades; the progreſſive proſperity of the kingdom has increaſed all the old branches of their commerce, but they all exhibit a proof that they are ſtill cramped for want of greater exertions, which time is bringing. If new ſpeculations change the current of old capitals, the advantage may be very problematical; if this is not done new trades will demand new capitals, and I believe it will be difficult to point out three men in the kingdom with an unemployed wealth applicable to new undertakings.

But it is ſaid that Engliſh capitals will be employed; an argument equally uſed to prove the gain of Ireland and the loſs of England; but in fact proving neither one nor the other. If the wealth of England is employed there, it will be for the benefit of England. Before the preſent troubles three fourths of the trade, induſtry, and even agriculture of North-America were put in motion by Engliſh capitals, but aſſuredly for our own benefit; the profit was remitted to England, and whenever the fund itſelf was withdrawn, it was to the ſame country. Is it for the benefit of Portugal that Engliſh factors reſide at Oporto? Suppoſing the fact ſhould happen, that Engliſh manufacturers or merchants ſhould eſtabliſh factors or partners at Corke or Waterford, to carry on woollen fabrics, I ſee not a ſhadow of objection; the profit of thoſe undertakings would center moſt aſſuredly in England; and if in doing it the Iriſh were benefited alſo, who can repine? Were not the Americans benefited in the ſame manner? That England would ſuffer no loſs if this was to happen is to me clear; but I believe Ireland has very little reaſon to expect it for many years. I have ſhewn already that ſuch a plan could never be thought of for ſuch fabrics as are in Ireland rivalled by Engliſh goods of the ſame ſort; if it was to happen it muſt be in *new* fabrics: but let me aſk a ſenſible manufacturer, whether it would not be eaſier for him to eſtabliſh ſuch amidſt the long eſtabliſhed ſkill and ingenuity of England, rather than go into a country where the whole muſt be a creation; where cheapneſs of proviſions, and the habit of ſubſiſting on potatoes, at ſo ſmall an expence, would baffle his endeavours for half an age, to make the people induſtrious, and where, under that diſadvantage, the price of his labour would be as high as in England? I have a right to conclude this, ſeeing the fact in the linen manufacture, throughout the North of Ireland, where the weavers earn on average 1s. 5d. a day, and where alſo the cheapneſs of proviſions proves very often detrimental to the fabric.

As a general queſtion, there is nothing more miſtaken than dearneſs and cheapneſs of labour. Artizans and manufacturers of all ſorts are as well paid by the day as in England, but the *quantity* of work they give for it, and in many caſes the *quality* differ exceedingly. Huſbandry labour is very *low priced*, but by no means *cheap*; I have in a preceding ſection ſhewn this, and aſſerted on experience that two ſhillings a day in Suffolk is cheaper than ſixpence in Corke. If a Huron would dig for twopence, I have little doubt but it might be dearer than the Iriſhman's ſixpence.

If an Engliſh manufacturer could not attempt an Iriſh fabric for cheapneſs of labour, what other motive could influence him? Not the price of the raw material, for wool is on an average forty-ſeven per cent. dearer than in England, which alone is a moſt heavy burthen. Other reaſons, were the above not ſufficient, would induce me to believe on the one hand, that the Iriſh will not immediately reap any benefit from Engliſh capitals employed in their woollen fabrics; and on the other, that if it was to happen, England would ſuſtain no loſs. What time may effect is another queſtion; Ireland has been ſo faſt increaſing in proſperity, that ſhe will gradually form a capital of her own for new trades, and I doubt not will flouriſh in them without the leaſt prejudice to Britain. Thoſe who are apt to think the contrary, cannot conſider with too much attention that caſe in point: North-Britain, which by means of cheap labour and proviſions, has not been able to rival, with any dangerous ſucceſs, one ſingle Engliſh fabric, yet has ſhe raiſed many to a great degree of proſperity; but ſhe has flouriſhed in them without injury to us; and her greateſt manufactures, ſuch as ſtockings, linen, &c. &c. have grown with the unrivalled proſperity of ſimilar fabrics in England; if Engliſh capitals have been aſſiſtant, have we upon review a ſingle reaſon to regret it? The plenty of coals in Scotland is an advantage that Ireland does not enjoy, where fuel is dearer than in England.

But let me ſuppoſe for a moment, that the contrary of all this was fact, that Engliſh capitals would go, that Ireland would gain, and that England would loſe. Is it imagined that the account would ſtop there? By no means. Why would Engliſh capitals go? Becauſe they could be employed to more advantage; and will any one convince us, that it is not for the general benefit of the empire, that capitals ſhould be employed where they will be *moſt productive?* Is it even for the advantage of England, that a thouſand pounds ſhould here be employed in a fabric at twelve per cent. profit, if the ſame could make twenty in Ireland? This is not at all clear; but no poſition is plainer than another, becauſe it is founded on uniform facts, that the wealth of Ireland is the wealth of England, and that the conſumption in Ireland of Engliſh manufactures thrives exactly in proportion to that wealth. While the great profit of the linen manufacture centers at laſt in England, and while Engliſh capitals, and Engliſh factors, and partners, have gone to the North of Ireland to advance that fabric, ſo much to the benefit of England, what ſhadow of an apprehenſion can ariſe, that other branches of Iriſh proſperity may ariſe by the ſame means, and with the ſame effect? Take into one general idea the conſumption of Britiſh goods in that kingdom; the intereſt they pay us for money; and the remittances from abſentee eſtates; and then let any one judge, if they can poſſibly increaſe in wealth without a vaſt proportion of every ſhilling of that wealth at laſt centering here. It is for this reaſon that I think myſelf the warmeſt friend to Britain, by urging the importance of Iriſh proſperity; we can never thrive to the extent of our capacity till local prejudices are done away, and they are not done away until we believe the advantage the ſame, whether wealth ariſes in Roſcommon or in Berkſhire.

Upon the whole it appears, that the Iriſh have no reaſon to look for relief from this new and liberal ſyſtem, to any diſtreſs peculiar to the preſent moment; the ſilent progreſs of time is doing that for them, which they are much too apt to look for in ſtatutes, regulations and repeals. Their diſtreſs will moſt aſſuredly be only temporary. The increaſe of wealth, which has for ſome time been flowing into that kingdom, will animate their induſtry; to put it in the future is improper, it muſt be doing it at this moment, and he is no friend to Britain that does not wiſh it may continue in the moſt rapid progreſſion; in this idea I ſhall not heſitate to declare, that the freedoms granted to Ireland, whenever they ſhall take effect to the benefit of that kingdom, will prove the wiſeſt meaſures for enriching this. That all apprehenſions of ills ariſing from them are equally contrary to the dictates of experience, and to the concluſions of the ſoundeſt theory.

MODES OF AGRICULTURE

RECOMMENDED TO THE

GENTLEMEN OF IRELAND.

HAVING been repeatedly requeſted by gentlemen in all parts of the kingdom, to name ſuch courſes of crops as I thought would be advantageous; I very readily complied to the beſt of my judgment with the deſire; but as it is neceſſary to be more diffuſe in explanations than poſſible on the leaf of a pocket-book, I promiſed many to be more particular in my intended publication; I ſhall, therefore, venture to recommend ſuch modes of cultivation as I think, after viewing the greateſt part of the kingdom, will be found, moſt advantageous.

TURNEP COURSE*.

1. Turneps.
2. Barley.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

Plough the field once in October into flat lands; give the ſecond ploughing the beginning of March; a third in April; a fourth in May; upon this ſpread the manure, whatever it may be, if any is deſigned for the crop; dung is the beſt. About midſummer plough for the laſt time. You muſt be attentive in all theſe ploughings thoroughly to extirpate all root weeds, particularly couch *(tritiam repens)* and water graſs; the former is the white root, which is under ground, the latter, which knots on the ſurface, and is, if poſſible, more miſchievous than the former. Children, with baſkets, ſhould follow the plough in every furrow to pick it all up and burn it, and as faſt as it is done ſow and harrow in the turnep ſeed. The beſt way of ſowing is to provide a trough, from twelve to ſixteen feet long, three inches wide and four deep, made of ſlit deal half an inch thick, let it have partitions twelve inches aſunder, and a bottom of pierced tin to every other diviſion, the holes in the tin ſhould be juſt large enough for a ſeed to fall through with eaſe, three of them to each tin; in the middle of the trough two circular handles of iron; the ſeed is to be put, a ſmall quantity at a time, into the bottomed diviſions, and a man taking the trough in his hands walks with a ſteady pace over the land, ſhaking it ſideways as he goes: if he guides himſelf by the centers and furrows of the beds, he will be ſure not to miſs any land; cover the ſeed with a light pair of harrows. A pint and half of ſeed the proper quantity for a plantation acre: the large globular white Norfolk ſort, which grows above ground, yields the greateſt produce.

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* *For dry and light ſoils.*

As ſoon as the crop comes up, watch them well to ſee if attacked by the fly, and if very large ſpaces are quite eaten up, inſtantly plough again, and ſow and harrow as before. When the plant gets the third or rough leaf, they are ſafe from the fly, and as ſoon as they ſpread a diameter of three or four inches is the time to begin to hand hoe them, an operation ſo indiſpenſibly neceſſary, that to cultivate turneps without it, is much worſe management than not to cultivate them at all. Procure hand hoes from England eleven inches wide, and taking them into the field, make the men ſet out the turneps to the diſtance of from twelve to eighteen inches aſunder, according to the richneſs of the ſoil; the richer the greater the diſtance, cutting up all weeds and turneps which grow within thoſe ſpaces, and not leaving two or three plants together in knots. Make them do a piece of land perfectly well while you are with them, and leave it as a ſample. They will be ſlow and aukward at firſt, but will improve quickly. Do not apprehend the expence, that will leſſen as the men become handy. On no account permit them to do the work with their fingers, unleſs to ſeparate two turneps cloſe together, for they will never then underſtand the work, and the expence will always be great. Employ hands enough to finiſh the field in three weeks. As ſoon as they have done it, they are to begin again, and hoe a ſecond time to correct the deficiencies of the firſt; and for a few years, until the men become ſkilful in the buſineſs, attend in the ſame manner to remedy the omiſſions of the ſecond. And if afterwards, when the turneps are cloſed, and excluded all hoeing, any weeds ſhould riſe and ſhew themſelves above the crop, children and women ſhould be ſent in to pull them by hand.

In order to feed the crop where they grow, which is an eſſential article, herdles muſt be procured; as a part therefore of the ſyſtem, plant two or three acres of the ſtrait timber ſally, in the ſame manner as for a twig garden, only the plants not quite ſo cloſe, theſe at two years growth will make very good ſheep herdles, they ſhould be 6 or 7 feet long and 3 feet high, the bottoms of the upright ſtakes ſharpened, and projecting from the wattle work 6 inches, they are fixed down by means of ſtakes, one ſtake to each herdle, and a band of year old ſally goes over the two end ſtakes of the herdle, and the moveable ſtake they are fixed with: the herdles are very eaſily made, but the beſt way would be to ſend over an Iriſh labourer to England to become a maſter of it, which he would do in a couple of months.

Being thus provided with herdles, and making ſome other ſhift till the ſallies are grown, you muſt feed your crop (if you would apply them to the beſt advantage) with fat wethers, beginning the middle of November, or firſt week in December, and herdling off a piece proportioned to the number of your ſheep, let them live there, night and day, when they have nearly eaten the piece up, give them another, and ſo on while your crop laſts: when you come to have plenty of herdles, there ſhould be a double row in order to let your lean ſheep follow the fat ones, and eat up their leavings; by which means none will be loſt. The great profit of this practice in Ireland is being able to ſell your fat ſheep in the ſpring when mutton almoſt doubles its price. If you fat oxen with turneps they muſt be given in ſheds, well littered, and kept clean, and the beaſts ſhould have good hay. Take care never to attempt to fatten either beaſts or wethers with them that are lean at putting them to turneps; the application is profitable only for animals that are not leſs than half fat.

Upon the crop being eaten there is a variation of conduct founded on circumſtances not eaſy fully to deſcribe, which is ploughing once, twice, or thrice for barley; the ſoil muſt be dry, looſe, and friable for that grain, and as clover is always to be ſown on it, it muſt be fine, but if the firſt ploughing is hit in proper time and weather, the land will be in finer order on many ſoils than after ſucceſſive ploughings. The farmer in his field muſt be the judge of this: ſuffice it to ſay, that the right moment to ſend the ploughs into a field is one of the moſt difficult points to be learned in tillage, and which no inſtructions can teach. It is practice alone that can do it. As to the time of ſowing the barley in Ireland I ſhould miſs no ſeaſon after the middle of February if I had my land in order. Sow three quarters of a barrel, or a barrel and quarter of barley to the plantation acre, according to the richneſs of the land, if it had a moderate manuring for turneps, and fed with fat ſheep, three quarters or a whole one would be ſufficient, but if you doubt your land being in heart, ſow one and a quarter. Plough firſt, (whether once, twice or thrice) and then ſow and cover with harrows of middling weight, finiſhing with a light harrow. When the barley is three inches high, ſow not leſs than 20lb. of red clover to each plantation acre, if the ſeed is not very good do not ſow leſs than 25lb. and immediately run a light roller once over it; but take care that this in a dry day, and when the earth does not ſtick at all to the roller. When the barley is cut, and carried from the field, feed the clover before winter, but not very bare, and do not let any cattle be on it in the winter. Early in the ſpring before it ſhoots pick up the ſtones, clean off where you intend mowing it for hay, but if you feed it this is unneceſſary. As to the application of the crop for hay or food it muſt be directed by the occaſions of the farmer; I ſhall however remark, that it may be made exceedingly conducive to increaſe the number of hogs in Ireland, as it will ſingly ſupport, all quarter, half, and full grown pigs. If mown it ſhould be cut as ſoon as the field looks reddiſh from the bloſſoms: it will yield two full crops of hay.

Within the month of October let it be well ploughed, with an even regular furrow, and from half to three quarters of a barrel of wheat ſeed ſown, according to the richneſs of the land, and harrowed well in. When this crop is reaped and cleared the courſe ends, and you begin again for turneps as before.

This ſyſtem is very well adapted to ſheep, as the clover fattens them in ſummer, and the turneps in winter.—Excellent as it is for dry ſoils, it is not adapted to wet ones; the following is preferable.

BEAN COURSE*.

1. Beans.
2. Oats.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

WHATEVER the preceding crop, whether corn or old graſs, (for the firſt manure is properly applied, but unneceſſary on the latter) plough but once for planting beans, which ſhould be performed from the middle of December to the middle of February, the earlier the better †, and chuſe either the mazagan or the horſe bean according to your market; the ſingle ploughing given muſt be performed ſo as to arch the land up, and leave deep furrows to ſerve as open drains. Harrow the land after ploughing. Provide ſlit planed deal poles ten feet long, an inch thick, and two inches broad, bore holes through them exactly at ſixteen inches aſunder, paſs pack-threads through theſe holes to the length of the lands you are about to plant, and there ſhould be a pole at every fifty yards; four ſtakes at the corners of the extreme poles, faſten them to the ground, the intention is to keep the lines every where at equal diſtances and ſtrait, which are great points in the bean huſbandry to facilitate horſe hoeing. This being ready, women take ſome beans in their aprons, and with a dibber pointed with iron make the holes along the ſtrings with their right hand, and put the bean in with their left; while they are doing one ſet of lines, another ſhould be prepared and fixed ready for them. Near London they are paid 3s. and 3s. 6d. a buſhel for this work of planting; but where they are not accuſtomed to it they do it by the day. The beans are put three inches aſunder, and two or three inches deep. A barrel will plant a plantation acre. A light pair of harrows are uſed to cover the ſeed in the holes, ſtuck with a few buſhes. By the time the cold eaſterly winds come in the ſpring they will be high enough to hand hoe, if they were early planted, and it is of conſequence on ſtrong ſoils to catch every dry ſeaſon for ſuch operations. The hoes ſhould be eight inches wide, and the whole ſurface of the ſpace between the rows carefully cut, and every weed eradicated. This hoeing coſts, near London, from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per Engliſh acre, but with unſkilful hands in Ireland I ſhould ſuppoſe it would coſt from 12s. to 14s. per plantation acre, according to the lazineſs in working I have remarked there. When the beans are about ſix inches high, they ſhould be horſe hoed with a ſhim, the cutting part ten or eleven inches wide. A plate of this tool is to be ſeen in my *Eaſtern Tour*. It is cheap, ſimple, and not apt to be out of order, one horſe draws it, which ſhould be led by a careful perſon, another ſhould hold the ſhim, and guide it carefully in the center between the rows. It cuts up all weeds effectually, and looſens the earth two or three inches deep; in a little time after this operation the hand hoe ſhould be ſent in again to cut any ſlips which the ſhim might have paſſed, and to extract the weeds that grew too near the plants for that tool to take them. This is but a ſlight hoeing. If the weather is dry enough a ſecond horſe hoeing with the ſhim ſhould follow when the beans are nine or ten inches high, but if the weather is wet it muſt be omitted, the hand hoe however muſt be kept at work enough to keep the beans perfectly free from weeds. Reap the crop as ſoon as a few of the pods turn darkiſh, and while many of them are green, you had much better cut too ſoon than too late. You may get them off in the month of Auguſt, (in England the mazagans are reaped in July) which leaves a ſufficient ſeaſon for half a fallow. Plough the ground directly if the weather is dry; and if dry ſeaſons permit (but you muſt be guided entirely by the ſtate of the weather, taking care on this ſoil never to go on it when wet) give it two ploughings more before winter, leaving the lands rounded up ſo as to ſhoot off all water, with deep and well cleanſed furrows for the winter. It is of particular conſequence for an early ſpring ſowing, that not a drop of water reſt on the land through winter.

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* *For ſtrong and wet ſoils.*

† *In England it is proper to wait till the heavy Chriſtmas froſt breaks up, but as ſuch are rare in Ireland the ſame precaution is not neceſſary.*

The firſt ſeaſon dry enough after the middle of February, plough and ſow the oats, harrowing them in, from three fourths of a barrel, to a barrel and a quarter according to the richneſs of the land. As the ſowing muſt be on this one ploughing, you muſt be attentive to timing it right, and by no means to loſe a dry ſeaſon; cleanſe the furrows, and leave the lands in ſuch a round neat ſhape that no water can lodge; and when the oats are three or four inches high, as in the caſe before mentioned of barley, roll in the clover ſeed as before, taking care to do it in a dry ſeaſon. I need not carry the direction farther, as thoſe for the turnep courſe are to be applied to the clover and wheat.

The great object on theſe ſtrong and wet ſoils is to be very careful never to let your horſes go on them in wet weather, and in the forming your lands always to keep them the ſegment of a circle that water may no where reſt, with cuts for conveying it away. Another courſe for this land is,

1. Beans.
2. Wheat.

In which the beans being managed exactly as before directed, three ploughings are given to the land, the third of which covers the wheat ſeed: this is a very profitable courſe.

POTATOE COURSE*.

1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.
3. Turneps.
4. Barley.
5. Clover.
6. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

I will ſuppoſe the land to be a ſtubble, upon which ſpread the dung or compoſt equally over the whole field, in quantity not leſs than 60 cubical yards to a plantation. If the land be quite dry lay it flat, if inclinable to wetneſs arch it gently; in this firſt ploughing which ſhould be given the latter end of

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* *For light and dry ſoil; potatoes never anſwer on clays or ſtrong wet ſoils.*

February or the beginning of March, the potatoes are to be planted. Women are to lay the ſets in every other furrow, at the diſtance of 12 inches from ſet to ſet cloſe to the unploughed land, in order that the horſes may tread the leſs on them. There ſhould be women enough to plant one furrow in the time the ploughman is turning another, the furrows ſhould be not more than 5 inches deeep, nor broader than 9 inches, becauſe when the potatoes come up they ſhould be in rows 18 inches aſunder. The furrows ſhould alſo be ſtraight, that the rows may be ſo for horſe hoeing. Having finiſhed the field, harrow it well to lay the ſurface ſmooth, and break all the clods, and if the weather be quite dry any time in a fortnight after planting run a light roller over it followed by a light harrow. About a fortnight before the potatoes appear, ſhim over the whole ſurface of the field with one whoſe cutting edge is 2 feet long, going not more than 2 inches deep; this looſens the ſurface mould, and cuts off all the young weeds that may be juſt coming up. When the potatoes are three inches high horſe hoe them with a ſhim as directed for beans that cuts 12 inches wide, and go 3 inches deep, and immediately after hand hoe the rows, cutting the ſurface well between plant and plant, and alſo the ſpace miſſed by the ſhim. Repeat both theſe operations when the plants are ſix or ſeven inches high; and in about three weeks after give a hand hoeing, directing the men gently to earth up the plants, but not to lay the mould higher to their ſtems than three inches. After this nothing more is to be done than ſending women in to draw out any weeds that may appear by hand. Take them up the beginning of October, firſt carrying away all the ſtalks to the farm yard to make dung: then plough them up *acroſs* the field; making theſe new lands very wide, that is 4, 5, or 6 perch over, in order to leave as few furrows that way as poſſible. Provide to every plough from ten to fifteen men with three pronged forks, and a boy or girl with a baſket to every man, and diſpoſe eight or ten cars along the land to receive the crop, I uſed three wheeled carts, as they do not require a horſe while they are idle. Have your wheat ſeed ready brined, and limed, and the ſeedſman with his baſket in the field; as ſoon as the ploughman turns a furrow, the ſeeds man follows him cloſe, ſpraining the ſeed not into the furrow juſt opened, but into the land thrown over by the plough, the fork men then divide themſelves at equal diſtances along it, and ſhaking the mould which the ploughman turned over with their forks, the boys pick'up the potatoes. In uſing their forks they muſt attend to leaving the land regular and handſome without holes or inequalities, as there is to be no other tillage for the wheat. They are alſo always to ſtand and move on the part unploughed, and never to tread on the other; they are alſo to break all the land in pieces which the ploughman turns over, not only for getting all the potatoes, but alſo for covering the wheat. And thus they are to go on till the field is finiſhed. If your men are lazy, and do not work hard enough to keep the plough conſtantly going, you muſt get more, for they ſhould never ſtand ſtill. The treatment of this wheat wants no directions, and the ſucceeding crops of the courſe are to be managed exactly as before directed, only you need not manure for the turneps, if the potatoes had in that reſpect juſtice done them.

FLAX COURSE.

1. Turneps.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

This for flax on light and dry ſoils, the turneps to be managed exactly as before directed, and the remarks on the tillage of the turnep land for barley are all applicable to flax which requires the land to be very fine and friable; I would roll in the clover ſeed in the ſame manner, and the weeding and pulling the flax will aſſiſt its growth. Let the flax be ſaved and ſtacked like corn, threſhed in the ſpring, and the proceſs of watering and dreſſing gone through the ſame as in the common way. This huſbandry is exceedingly profitable.

1. Beans.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

This for ſtrong ſoils. The bean land to be prepared for the flax exactly in the ſame manner as before directed for oats.

1. Potatoes.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

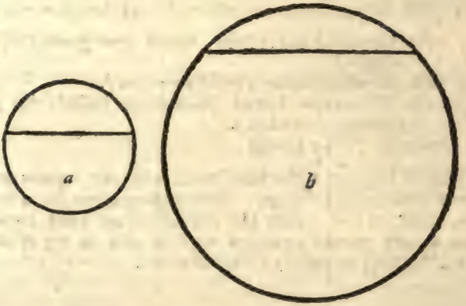
For any ſoils except the very ſtrong ones. The potatoes to be managed exactly as before directed, only upon taking them up the land to be left till ſpring, but if wet no water to be ſuffered on it in the winter. In the ſpring to apply more or fewer ploughings as will beſt enſure a fine friable ſurface to ſow the flax in.

GENERAL

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In very ſtoney ſoils, the implement called a ſhim cannot be uſed to any advantage; in which caſe the operations directed for it muſt be effected by extra hand hoeings. By *land* I mean thoſe beds formed in ploughing by the finiſhing open furrows: the ſpace from furrow to furrow is the *land.*

In ploughing wet ſoils be attentive to get theſe lands gradually into a right ſhape, which is a direct ſegment of a circle. A large ſegment of a ſmall circle raiſes the centers too high, and makes the ſides too ſteep; but a ſmall ſegment of a large circle is the proper form—for inſtance.



The ſegment of *a* appears at once to be an improper ſhape for a broad land, but that of *b* is the right form; keeping wet ſoils in that ſhape very much corrects the natural diſadvantages. Permitting the teams to go on to wet ſoils in wet weather, is a moſt miſchievous practice; but it is much worſe in the ſpring than in the autumn. In all theſe courſes it is proper to remark, that keeping the fallow crops, that is the turneps, beans and potatoes, abſolutely free from all weeds, and in a looſe friable order, is eſſential to ſucceſs. It is not neceſſary only for thoſe crops, but the ſucceſſive ones depend entirely on this conduct. It is the principle of this huſbandry to baniſh fallows, which are equally expenſive and uſeleſs, but then it is abſolutely neceſſary to be aſſiduous to the laſt degree in keeping theſe crops in the utmoſt perfection of management, not a ſhilling can be laid out on them that will not pay amply.

There are in the preceding courſes ſeveral refinements and practices, which I not only approve, but have practiſed, but omitted here, as I do not think them likely to meet with the neceſſary attention in Ireland.

LAYING LAND TO GRASS.

There is no part of huſbandry in Ireland leſs underſtood than this branch, and yet where land is to be laid down, none is more important.

Begin according to the ſoil, with either turneps, beans or potatoes, and manage them as preſcribed in the preceding inſtructions. If the land has been long under a bad ſyſtem, by which it has been exhauſted and filled with noxious weeds, take a ſecond crop managed exactly like the firſt, but one only to be manured. After this ſow either barley, oats, or flax, according to the tenor of the preceding directions, but inſtead of clover ſeed rolled in, harrow in the following ſeeds, with thoſe ſpring crops: quantities for a plantation acre,

15lb. perennial red clover, called cow graſs *(trifolium alpeſtre).*
12lb. of white clover *(trifolium repens).*
15lb. of narrow leaved plantation, called rib graſs *(plantage lanceolata).*
10lb. of yellow trefoil.

Which if bought at the beſt hand, will not uſually exceed above twenty-five ſhillings. All the ploughings given for this end, muſt tend to reduce the ſurface to an exact level, but then a very correct attention muſt be uſed to dig open furrows, in order to convey away all water.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

The following particulars were omitted under their reſpective heads.

DERRY.

THE ſhipping of this place in 1760 conſiſted of ſixty-ſeven ſail, from thirty to three hundred and fifty tons.

7	of and above	300	tons,	18 to 20	men and boys.
21	———	200	——	14 — 16	———
18	———	100	——	12 — 14	———
21	under —	100	——	5	———

Total, 10,820 tons.

In 1776 about two thirds of the above; the decline owing to that of the paſſenger trade, and in the import of flax-ſeed; for eighteen to twenty years back, two thouſand four hundred perſons went annually, not more in 1772 and 1773 than uſual.

CORKE.

I was informed that there was no foundation for Dr. Campbell's aſſertion, that this city ſuffers remarkably in time of war *.

EXTENT.

Dr. Grew calculated what the real contents of England and Wales were, not at the rate of the geographic mile, but real ſtatute ſquare, one containing 640 acres, and makes it 46,080,000 acres †, inſtead of the geographic content of 31,648,000. Ireland meaſured in the ſame manner, contains

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* *Political Survey of Britain, vol.* 1. *p.* 243.

† *Phil. Tranſ. No.* 330, *p.* 266.

about twenty-five millions of Engliſh acres, or fifteen millions and a half Iriſh, which at nine ſhillings and ſeven pence an acre, make the rental 7,427,083l. Thoſe who conſider this attentively, will not think I am above the truth at ſix millions, as all uncultivated bog, mountain and lake, are included in the valuations.

RENTAL.

The rental of England is ſtated at page 11 of the ſecond part to be thirteen ſhillings, but it is not accurate to compare that with the 9s. 7d. Iriſh rent. The latter is the groſs rent of all the iſland, including every thing *let or not*, deductions being made for the portions of lake, bog, river, &c. But that of England, at 13s. only what is occupied by the farmers or landlords, and does not include large rivers, lakes, royal foreſts, or common paſtures (mountains, bogs, marſhes and moors not to be excluded, as they are parts of the lands let, from which the calculation was made). Upon a very large allowance, if theſe are eſtimated at an eighth part of the whole, the account will be 7-8ths of England at 13s. and 1-8th at nothing, average 11s. 4d. per acre, inſtead of 13s. the compariſon with Ireland then will be,

	s.	d.
Ireland rent and roads —	9	10
England rent —	11	4
Rates, — —	1	2½
	12	6½
Iriſh acre and money, —	9	10
Which for an Engliſh acre and Engliſh money is, —	5	7

Inſtead of which it is 12s. 6½d. conſequently the proportion between the rent of land in England and Ireland is nearly as five to eleven; in other words that ſpace of land, which in Ireland lets for 5s. would in England produce 11s.

DEANERIES OF IRELAND.

	l.		l.
Raphoe, —	1600	Down, —	1700
Derry, —	1600	Kildare, —	120
Ardfert, —	60	Achonry, —	100
Connor, —	200	Killaloe, —	140
Clonmacnoiſe, —	50	Oſſory —	600
Corke, —	400	Kilmacduagh, —	120
St. Patrick's, —	800	Liſmore, —	306

Ardagh,

		l.			l.
Ardagh,	—	200	Leighlin,	—	80
Emly,	—	100	Ardmagh,	—	150
Kilmore,	—	600	Waterford,	—	400
Elphin,	—	250	Chriſt church,	—	2000
Roſs,	—	20	Limerick,	—	600
Killala,	—	150	Caſhel,	—	200
Cloyne,	—	220	Clogher,	—	809
Kilfenora,	—	210	Tuam,	—	300
Dromore,	—	400	Ferns,	—	300
Clonfert,	—	20	Archdeaconry of Kells,		1200

IDLENESS.

La ſociedad economica de Dublin ha levantado enteramente de nuevo las lencerias de Irlanda; *cuyos habitantes eſtaban poſeidos de gran indolencia.* Han extendido ſu agricultura, en lugar que antes vivian de ganados y paſtos, como los tartaros. See the *Appendice a la Educacion Popular.* Parte Quarta, p. 35. Madrid 1777, by Campomanes.

FALL IN THE PRICE OF THE PRODUCTS OF LAND.

Having in the preceding ſheets, mentioned much diſtreſs being felt in England from the great fall in the price of all products, I think I may be pardoned one or two obſervations in defence of opinions I have formerly held, and which then ſubjected me to much cenſure from the pens of a variety of pamphleteers.

From the concluſion of the laſt peace in 1762, to 1775 incluſive, the prices of all the products of the earth were at ſo high a price, that complaints were innumerable. I have a ſhelf in my ſtudy almoſt full of publications on the ſubject, and parliament itſelf was employed more than once in enquiring into the cauſes. The ſuppoſitions of the public were endleſs, there was ſcarcely an object in the kingdom, which was not mentioned as a cauſe, jobbers, regrators, foreſtallers, ſample ſelling, export bounty, poſt horſes, ſtage coaches, hounds, &c. &c. but ſome reſpectable complainants fixed on great farms and incloſures. During that period I more than once endeavoured to perſuade the public, that the complaint itſelf was not well founded, that prices were not comparatively ſo high as had been aſſerted; that the riſe was not owing to any one of the cauſes mentioned, and that a conſiderable increaſe of national wealth was fully ſufficient to account for it.

In the years 1776, 1777, and 1778, prices fell conſiderably; and in 1779 ſo low, that very general complaints have been heard of ruined farmers and diſtreſſed landlords, and at the time I am now writing the fact holds, that there is a very conſiderable fall in all products, and great numbers of farmers ruined. I have the prices of wool now for forty years before me, and that which from 1758 to 1767 was from 18s. to 21s. a tod, is for 1779 only 12s. and was in 1778 but 14s. We muſt go back to 1754 to find a year ſo low as the laſt. Wheat and all ſorts of grain are greatly fallen *.

In addition to theſe facts let me obſerve, that great farms and encloſures are now as prevalent as ever. If they were the occaſion of high prices before, how come they not to have the ſame effect now? But it is quite unneceſſary to dwell upon a fact, which at the firſt bluſh brings with it the moſt complete conviction.

After the peace of 1762, there was a very great influx of wealth into this kingdom, which had the effect of nominally raiſing all prices, not of corn and cattle only, but of land itſelf; prices have declined in 1776, 1777, and 1778, but greatly in 1779. I am very apt to believe, that as the former *dearneſs*, as we called it, was owing to PLENTY of money, the preſent *cheapneſs* is owing to SCARCITY; not to a ſcarcity, generally ſpeaking, becauſe there is a proof that the ſpecie of the kingdom was never greater than at preſent, but to a ſcarcity in theſe innumerable channels, which like the ſmaller veins and ramifications of the human body, carry the blood to the leaſt of the extremities. There is no ſcarcity of money in London, as I am informed by ſeveral very conſiderable bankers and merchants. But why is it ſo plentiful there? In order to be applied at ſeven or eight per cent. intereſt in public loans. This circumſtance it is which collects it from every part of the country, from every branch of national induſtry, and which occaſions the effect now ſo generally complained of, a fall in all prices. The reaſon why the farmers are ruined, which is really the caſe with numbers, is their

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* *The compariſon in general muſt ſtand thus:*

Wheat,	3*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*	*which* 5 *years ago was*	6*s.* to 7*s.*
Barley,	2*s.*	*ditto*	3*s.* 6*d.*
Oats,	2*s.*	*ditto*	2*s.* 6*d.*
Beans,	2*s.* 10*d.* to 3*s.*	*ditto*	3*s.* 6*d.*
Wool,	12*s.* to 15*s.*	*ditto*	16*s.* to 21*s.*
Lambs,	6*s.*	*ditto*	12*s.*
2 *Year old wethers*	10*s.*	*which were*	20*s.*
Cows,	5*l.* to 6*l.*		7*l.* to 9*l.*
Hogs,	20*s.*		26*s.*
4 *Year old ſteers,*	3*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*		7*l.* to 10*l.*
Oak timber,	3*l.* to 4*l.*	3*l.* 10*s.* to	4*l.* 10*s.*
Aſh ditto,	2*l.* to 2*l.* 5*s.*		2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.*

their having taken tenures of their lands at a rent proportioned to high prices; nor is this the only circumſtance, labour ought to fall with other commodities, but government having four hundred thouſand men in pay, and conſequently to be recruited, bids high in the market againſt the farmer. Poor rates alſo ought to fall, but there is ſo much folly, knavery, and infatuation, in every part of that abominable adminiſtration, that I am not at all ſurpriſed at ſeeing them riſe, which is the fact. Theſe three circumſtances eaſily account for the diſtreſs of the farmer.

We may in future, I apprehend, expect to ſee more accurate ideas of what has been called *dear* and *cheap* rates of products, and never more to hear of great farms, engroſſers of farms, commanding and monopolizing markets, or encloſures condemned for doing that which we now find them ſo utterly incapable of doing, that the farmers are ruined and in gaol for want of the power to effect matters, for which they were before ſo execrated. We at leaſt gain ſomething, if the preſent experience gives the lie direct to all that folly, nonſenſe and abſurdity, with which the public was ſo repeatedly peſtered. And there is the more reaſon for this, becauſe if ſuch a peace ſucceeds the preſent war, as leaves us a wealthy and proſperous people, prices will aſſuredly riſe, when that folly might again be met with, if not at preſent diſplayed in the true colours.

I know there are perſons, who attribute both the former high, and the preſent low prices, to difference of crops, ſpeaking much of plentiful and ſcarce years; I have been uniformly of opinion, that the difference of product, upon an average of all ſoils, to be extremely ſmall, ſo ſmall as not to operate upon price; and even upon particular ſpots the difference is not nearly ſo great, as to account for any conſiderable riſe or fall. If this was a proper place I could offer many reaſons and facts for this opinion; but if we accept the idea, then there is at once an end to great farms and encloſures as the cauſe of the riſe, which are the two circumſtances the moſt inſiſted on.

" I have lately received an account of a large common field in Leiceſterſhire, which uſed to produce annually 800 qrs. of corn, beſides maintaining 200 cattle, but which now in conſequence of *being incloſed and getting into few hands*, produces little or no corn; and maintains no more cattle than before, though the rents are conſiderably advanced." *Dr. Price's Supp. to Obſ. on Rev. Pay.* p. 388. " In Northamptonſhire and Lieceſterſhire, encloſing has greatly prevailed, and moſt of the new encloſed lordſhips are turned into paſturage, in conſequence of which many lordſhips have not now 50 acres ploughed yearly, in which 1500, or at leaſt 1000 were ploughed ed formerly; and ſcarce an ear of corn is now to be ſeen in ſome that bore hundreds of qrs. and ſo ſeverely are the effects of this felt, that more wheat had been lately ſold in theſe counties, on an average, at 7s. and 7s. 6d. the Wincheſter buſhel, than uſed to be ſold at 3s. 6d." *Rev. Mr. Addington's reaſons againſt encloſing open fields.* As encloſures have ſince proceeded as rapidly as ever—Pray, why is wheat down at 3s. 6d. again, if it was encloſing that raiſed it to 7s. 6d.

INDEX.

I N D E X.

Thoſe marked thus * refer to the pages in Part II. at the end of Vol. II.

A.

ARDMAGH, i. 158.
Arran (iſles) i. 388.
Annſgrove, ii. 8.
Abſentees, liſt of, 82 *.
Ardfert, ii. 127.
Adair, ii. 135.

B.

Bogs, 30. 52. 82. 218. 241. 310. 334. 342. 369. 395. 72. * means of improving, 73. *
Ballyſhannon, i. 257.
Belleiſle, i. 271.
Ballynogh, i. 296.
Ballymoat, i. 310.
Ballyna, i. 344.
Baker, Wynn, i. 20. 101 *.
Ballynakil, i. 86.
Brownſhill, i. 87.
Bargie and Forth, i. 108.
Ballygarth, i. 143.
Boyne, battle of, i. 145.
Belfaſt, i. 202.
Blarney, ii. 33.
Beans in Ireland, i. 109. ii. 197.
Bullocks, profit on, ii. 145. 75*.
Biſhopricks, value of, 81 *.
Bucks, 113 *.
Bounty on inland carriage of corn, 114 *. 124 *. Its account ſtated Dr. and Cr. 134 *. Ill effects, ib.
Beef, price of, 127 *.
Butter, price of, 127 *.
Ballycanvan, ii. 188.
Buildings, 195 *.

C.

Cellbridge, i. 14.
Carton, i. 23.
Caſtletown, i. 22.
Cars, utility of, i. 40. 212. 306. ii. 22. 61 *.
Courtown, i. 115.
Cullen, i. 146.
Caſtle Ward, i. 201.
Clay, burning of, i. 209.
Colerain, i. 219 *.
Clonleigh, i. 236.
Caſtle Caldwell, i. 258.
Carrots, i. 288.
Corn burned inſtead of threſhing, i. 350. 364.
Conna Marra, i. 393.
Corcaſſes, i. 407. ii. 1.
Caſtle Oliver, ii. 7. 141.
Caſtle Martyr, ii. 46.
Caſtle Mary, ii. 63.
Corke, Neighbourhood, ii. 65. 75.
Coolmore, ii. 75.
Climate of Ireland, 3 *.
Cloathing of the poor, 35 *.
Cabbins, 35 *.
Catholicks, ſtate of, 43 *.
Clergy, propoſed improvements for them, 80 *.
Coals, import of, 92 *.
Cotton, import of, 99 *.
Caſtle iſland, ii. 121.
Candles, price of, 127 *.
Character of the Iriſh, 106 *.
Corn trade, 114 *.
—— exported, 120 *.
—— imported, 122 *.
—— on ſtands, 144 *.
—— Brought coaſtways to Dublin, 137 *.
Curraghmore, ii. 176.
Compact with Ireland relative to linens and woollens, 146 *.
Cyder, ii. 200.
Cullen, ii. 256.
Conſumption, 197 *.

D.

Dublin, inhabitants in, i. 2. Lodgings, i. 5. Opera, ib. Dublin ſociety, 95 *. Conſumption of, 137 *.
Dolleſtown, i. 24.
Dangan, i. 31.
Drueſtown, i. 57.
Dargle, i. 134.
Derry, i. 229.
Drumoland, i. 406.
Donneraile, ii. 18.
Dunkettle, ii. 38.
Demeſnes, 109 *.
Drinking, 110 *.
Duelling, 112 *.
Dawſon court, ii. 214.

E.

Emigrations, i. 168. 203. 42 *.
Eyre Connaught, i. 388.
Extent of Ireland, 2 *.
Education, 107 *.
Embargoes, 190 *.

F.

Forſter, baron, his vaſt improvement, i. 146.
Flax, culture of, i. 207. 322. 394. 155 *.
Fiſheries, i. * 219. 228. 242. 244. 392. ii. 194. 187 *.
Florence court, i. 276.
Farnham, i. 285.
Families, old, i. 305. 366.
Foxford, i. 349.
French, Mr. his bog improvement, i. 372.
Food of the poor, 32 *.
Folding ſheep, ii. 147.
Furneſs, ii. 206.

G.

Gibbſtown, i. 51.
Gowry, i. 114.
Glen of Downs, i. 132.
Glaſslaugh, i. 170.
Giant's cauſeway, i. * 218.

Gun

Gun harpoon for whales, i. 251.
Graſs, tendency of the ſoil to, i. 131.
Gillaroo trout, i. 351.
Gloſter, i. 215.
Government, 191 *.

H.

Headfort, i. 54.
Hampton, i. 139.
Hillſborough, i. 184.
Hearts of ſteel, i. 217.
Horſes drawn by the tail, i. 292. 350.
Hollymount, i. 367.
Hops, ii. 25.
Hearth-money, exemptions from, 87 *.
Houſes, 110 *.
Hides, price of, 128 *.

I.

Improvement of the kingdom in the laſt twenty years, i. 153. State of, compared with England 11 *.
Juries, 112 *.
Johnſtown, ii. 227.

K.

Killadoon, i. 13.
Kilfaine, i. 92.
Killrue, i. 137.
Kingſton, i. 308.
Kilalla, i. 346.
Kiltartan, i. 405.
Kildining, ii. 62.
Killarney, ii. 90.
Kingſborough, Lord, his mountain improvement, 69 *.

L.

Luttrel's town, i. 6.
Lucan, i. 21.
Laughlin mills, i. 90.
Linen manufacture, account of, i. 161. 172. 178. 316. 360. 385.
—— export of, 150 *.
—— pretended decline in 1773, 152 *.
—— import to England, 153 *.
—— wretched conduct of, 161 *.
Lurgan, i. 175.
Liſburne, i. 185.
Lecale, i. 196.
Leſlyhill, i. 218.
Loch Swilly, i. 227.
Loch Earne, i. 268.
Limerick, ii. 1.
Living, cheapneſs, ii. 6. 108 *.
Lime, ii. 10. 76. 67 *. Kilns, ii. 25.
Lota, ii. 65.
Labour, payment of, 30 *. Price of, i. 37.
Lixnaw, ii. 129.
Limerick, grazing, ii. 143.

M.

Mahon, i. 170.
Magilligan, i. * 221.
Mount Charles, i. 242.
Mercra, i. 327.
Mules, i. 343. ii. 28.
Moniva, i. 371.
Mallow, ii. 26.
Marino, i. 4.
Monknewtown, i. 46.
Mullingar, i. 69.
Mount Juliet, i. 92.
Mount Kennedy, i. 122.
Mountains, improvement of, i. 141. 146. 352. ii. 76. 125. 69 *.
Market-hill, i. 156.
Middle men, 17 *.
Mountains, height of, ii. 113.
Manners, 105 *.
Mahaghree iſlands, ii. 127.
Macarthy, of Spring-houſe, his

his farm the greateſt in the world, ii. 157.
Mills of Ireland, 141 *.
Manufactures, 144 *.
Mitchelſtown, ii. 269.

N.

Newry, i. 155.
Newtown Stewart, i. 188.
Newtown Limmovaddy, i. * 221.
Newgrove, ii. 29.
Nedeen, ii. 83.
Navigations, 90 *. 93 *.
National debt, 172 *.

O.

O'Connor, i. 305.
Orchards, i. 411.
Oxen drawn by the horns, ii. 22. 55.
Oppreſſion, i. 38.

P.

Packenham, i. 58.
Poor, ſtate of, i. 68. 98. 145. 151. 263. 412. 25 *. 36*. 40 *. ii. 222. 234. 247.
Portaferry, i. 190.
Products in Ireland, quantity of 13 *.
Proviſions, price of, 54 *.
Penſions, amount of, 85 *.
People, number in Ireland, 88 *.
Potatoes, oxen fattened on, i. 29. 330.
—— hogs ditto, i. 34.
—— ſort, ii. 24. 63.
—— review of intelligence, i. 27.
—— proportion of to wheat, i. 33.
Population, i. 98. 263. 412. 85 *.
Powerſcourt, i. 133.
Planting, i. 303. 62 *.
Public works, money granted for, 89 *.
Premiums propoſed, 102 *.
Palatines, colonies of, ii. 123. 138. 151.
People, race of, 106 *.
Paſturage, exports, 126 *. 128 *.
Pork, price of, 127 *. Export of, 132 *.
Paſſage from Waterford to Milford, ii. 203. Expence of, 206.

R.

Rents, riſe of, i. 61. 278. ii. 129. 147.
Rathan, i. 76.
Roſs, i. 101.
Ravenſdale, i. 154.
Roſtellan, ii. 64.
Rental of Ireland, 6 *.
Roads, 56 *.
Rapes, 112 *.
Revenue, 167 *.

S.

Summer-hill, i. 28.
Slaine, i. 37. Mills, 43.
Suckling lambs, i. 126.
Sheep walks, i. 299. 306.
Strokeſtown, i. 297.
Sligo, i. 338.
Shaen Caſtle, i. 78.
Shaen caſtle, O'Neil, i. 210.
Silver firs, i. 289.
Sheep, review of, 76 *.
Sea weed, i. 342.
Soil of Ireland, 3 *.
Society, Dublin, 95 *. Their ridiculous conduct, 97 *.
Silk, import of, 99 *.
Stones, means of breaking, ii. 114.
Sheep, exports from, 129 *.
Shannon, fiſh in, ii. 238.

T.

Tullamore, i. 71.
Taghmon, i. 107.

Tinnyhinch, i. 133.
Turneps, i. 288. 405. ii. 31. 47. 63.
Tanrego, i. 339.
Tuam, i. 368.
Tallow, price of, 127 *.
Townſhend, Mr. his eſtabliſhment of Engliſh farmers, ii. 80.
Tillage, 15 *. Increaſe of, where, 125 *.
Tenantry, 17 *. Poverty of, 22 *. Proper encouragement for, 23 *.
Timber, want of, 62 *. To what owing, 65 *. Means of preſerving, 64 *.
Tythes, 79 *.
Tarbat, ii. 131.
Tipperary, ſheep huſbandry, ii. 155.
Tabinets, 166 *.
Taxes of Ireland compared with thoſe of Britain, 173 *.

U.

Union, i. 81.

W.

Woodſtock, i. 100.
Whiteboys, i. 102. 119.
Wexford, i. 107.
Warrenſtown, i. 177.
Weſtport, i. 351.
Woodlawn, i. 395.
Wool, ſmuggling, i. 413. ii. 67.
Woollen manufacture, ii. 18. 34. 61. 68.
Waſte lands, 69 *.
Wool, price of, 130 *. In Ireland compared with England, 76 *.
Woollen goods, import of, 99 *.
Woodpark, ii. 120.
Woodford, ii. 130.
Waterford, ii. 184.
Weavers earnings, 156 *.

Y.

Yarn, export of, 129 *. Price of, 130 *.
Yelverton, his famous crop of wheat, ii. 230.

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